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Scots magazine

THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY;

A NEW SERIES

OF THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

AUGUST—DECEMBER, 1817.

EDINBURGH:
PRINTED BY GEORGE RAMSAY AND COMPANY,
FOR ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE AND COMPANY, EDINBURGH;
AND LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN,
LONDON.

1817.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

BEING A NEW SERIES OF

The Scots Magazine.

AUGUST 1817.

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HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days.	Morn.		Even.		Days.	Morn.		Even.	
Aug.	H.	M.	H.	M.	Aug.	H.	M.	H.	M.
Th. 21	9	9	9	56	Fr. 5	8	32	9	24
Fr. 22	10	42	11	21	Sa. 6	10	12	10	53
Sa. 23	11	55	12	25	Su. 7	11	30	11	57
Su. 24	12	51			M. 8	12	23	12	46
M. 25	1	15	1	37	Tu. 9			1	9
Tu. 26	1	57	2	15	W. 10	1	30	1	50
W. 27	2	31	2	48	Th. 11	2	9	2	30
Th. 28	3	5	3	13	Fr. 12	2	48	3	8
Fr. 29	3	35	3	49	Sa. 13	3	27	3	47
Sa. 30	4	3	4	17	Su. 14	4	9	4	29
Su. 31	4	33	4	47	M. 15	4	46	5	7
Sept.					Tu. 16	5	30	5	57
M. 1	5	3	5	18	W. 17	6	20	6	55
Tu. 2	5	34	5	51	Th. 18	7	27	8	11
W. 3	6	12	6	37	Fr. 19	9	1	9	54
Th. 4	7	9	7	46	Sa. 20	10	36	11	15

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Aug. 26. 25 *m.* past 7 after.
Last Quarter, Sept. 3. 48 —— 8 after.
New Moon, —— 11. 27 —— 6 morn.
First Quarter, —— 17. 44 —— 10 after.

TERMS, &c.

Aug. 21. Duke of Clarence born.
26. Salmon Fising in Forth and Tay ends.
Sept. 2. Partridge Shooting begins.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr Jamieson's curious communication on the Origin of the Picts,—Mr Duncan's View of the Commerce and Manufactures of Glasgow,—a very able article on the merits of Mr Kemble as an Actor,—and a learned paper on Atmospheric Phenomena,—will appear in our next.

An interesting account of Block-Printing is in preparation.

A series of Original Letters to and from Queen Elizabeth—Also Original Letters of Burns—will appear successively, as our arrangements permit.

As soon as we have recovered from the alarm occasioned by the abrupt appearance of *Satan*, his very characteristic address may find a place in our Miscellany.

Our materials will soon enable us to present our readers with a comprehensive view of the improvements which have taken place in this Metropolis from a very early period to the present time.

Printed by George Ramsay & Co.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

The Scots Magazine was begun in 1739, and has been continued, without interruption, during the seventy-eight years which have since elapsed. It forms now a record of Scottish Literature and History, during that long period, the value of which is so universally acknowledged, as to render all panegyric superfluous. For some time past, however, it has been strongly pressed on the Proprietors, from various quarters, that, in order more fully to adapt it to the taste of the times, a considerable enlargement of plan was become necessary, and that it ought to receive some improvements in typography and appearance. The Proprietors felt some hesitation in making any change upon the plan of a work so long established; but the ample and highly respectable assurances which they have received, both of regular support, and of occasional contributions, in the event of such a change, have at length determined them to enter with spirit and zeal upon the execution of the improvements suggested.

The Proprietors, therefore, beg to intimate, that the present series closes with the Number for July; and that the Number for August forms the *first* of a new series, upon a plan greatly enlarged and improved, and which will combine, with the objects hitherto treated in the Scots Magazine, a variety of others, which the narrower limits of that Miscellany did not permit it to embrace.

To form a repository for the short and occasional productions of men of genius,—to draw illustrations of the manners, history, and antiquities of Scotland, from mines

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yet unexhausted or unexplored,—to record the remarkable occurrences of the Republic of Letters, including an obituary of its eminent characters,—to illustrate the progress and present state of the fine, as well as of the useful arts,—and to preserve a faithful journal of foreign and domestic occurrences;—these are objects which, with many others of a nature too miscellaneous to be particularly enumerated, they confidently expect to fulfil, with a success not attained by any similar work hitherto attempted in this country.

The work will now be entitled, "THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE and LITERARY MISCELLANY, being a New Series of the SCOTS MAGAZINE," and will be published monthly. The Magazine bearing the former title was, in 1804, incorporated with the SCOTS MAGAZINE, and the two united have since been published under the title of the SCOTS MAGAZINE AND EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY. It will contain Six Sheets of Letter Press, and, being printed in a closer manner, will comprise in each number nearly double the present quantity of matter. *The price will be Two Shillings.* This moderate addition is rendered unavoidable by the enlargement of the plan and the improvement of the materials; nor is there now any publication of the kind which is sold at a lower rate.

August 1817.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

AUGUST 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE INTRODUCTION INTO SCOTLAND, AND THE USE MADE THERE, OF THE INSTRUMENT OF TORTURE CALLED THUMBIKENS.

If history were not full of the enormities which man has perpetrated upon man, under the sanction of established systems of religion and law, it would be difficult in an enlightened age, to believe, that torture had ever been employed as an instrument of justice. We can enter into those mistaken feelings in regard to the nature and end of punishment, which have sometimes prompted men to inflict cruel torments upon the convicted perpetrators of great crimes; but there seems to be no apology in any good feeling of our nature, for the blind and brutal expedient of applying torture, in order to force the *discovery* of such crimes. In this case, there is not only a flagrant violation of every principle of justice and humanity, by the infliction of torment previous to conviction, but guilt and innocence are made wholly to depend upon the physical strength or resolution of the sufferer. It is nevertheless true, however, that almost all countries have, at one time or other, had recourse to this barbarous expedient; insomuch, that it would require a volume of no small size to describe even the instruments which have been employed in this savage mockery of judicial inquiry. In Scotland, where torture continued to be employed long after it was abandoned in England, there were two modes chiefly in use, the torture of the *boots* and that of the *thumbikens*. The exquisite picture of the torturing of Macbriar, in the *Tales of my Landlord*,* has made every one acquainted with the cruel process employed in the torture of the *boots*; and as we are enabled, through the kindness of Alexander Dunlop, Esq. banker in Greenock, grand-nephew of the celebrated Principal Carstares, who was tortured with the *thumbikens* in 1684, to present our readers with a figure of the instrument used upon that occasion; we have collected together a few particulars regarding its origin and employment in this country.

The *thumbikens*, as the name imports, was an instrument applied to the thumbs, in such a way as to enable the executioner to squeeze them violently; and this was often done with so much force as to bruise the thumb-bones, and swell the arms of the sufferer up to his shoulders. The *thumbikens* used in torturing Principal Carstares was an iron instrument fastened to a table with a screw, the

* The materials of this picture are evidently drawn from the account given by Wodrow of the torturing of Mitchell, in the first volume of his *History*.

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upper part of the instrument being squeezed down upon the thumbs by means of another screw, which the executioner pressed at the command of his employers.

The torture of the *boots* occurs at an earlier period in our history than that of the *thumbikens;* and is mentioned in conjunction with some other torturing instruments, of which we have not been able to find any description in the writings of our antiquaries. Thus we read, that, in 1596, the son and daughter of Alison Balfour, who was accused of witchcraft, were tortured before her to make her confess her crime, in the manner following: "Her son was put in the *buits*, where he suffered fifty-seven strokes; and her daughter, about seven years old, was put in the *pilniewinks*." In the same case, mention is made, besides pilniewinks, pinniewinks or pilliewinks, of *caspitaws* or *caspicaws*, and of *tosots*, as instruments of torture.* Lord Royston, in his manuscript notes upon Mackenzie's *Criminal Law*, conjectures, that these may have been only other names for the *buits* and *thumbikens;* † and thus much seems certain, that in those times, there was some torturing device applied to the *fingers*, which bore the name of pilniewinks;‡ but it will immediately appear, that the most authentic accounts assign the introduction and use of the instrument known by the name of *thumbikens*, to a much later period.

"It has been very generally asserted," says Dr Jamieson, "that part of the cargo of the invincible Armada was a large assortment of *thumbikens*, which, it was meant, should be employed as powerful arguments for convincing the heretics." § The country of the *inquisition* was certainly a fit quarter from whence to derive so congenial an implement; but other accounts, as we have said, and these apparently unquestionable, assign it a later introduction, and from a quarter and by means of agents, very well fitted for the production and importation of such a commodity. In the journal of the proceedings of the Scotch Privy-Council kept by Lord Fountainhall, and partly published in that very curious collection called his *Decisions*, he takes occasion to mention the origin of the *thumbikens*, in his account of the various torturings inflicted in 1684, upon William Spence, a person who had been in the employment of the Earl of Argyll. Upon the 26th of July in that year, this unfortunate man was put to the torture of the *boots*, "to force him," as Fountainhall says, "to reveal what he knew of the Earl's and other persons accessions to the late English fanatic plot, and the association and design of rising;" but as he would confess nothing at this time, "he was put in General Dalyell's hands; and it was reported, that, by a hair shirt and prickings, as the witches are used, he was five nights kept from sleep, till he was turned half distracted." Spence's resolution did not, however, forsake him, for sometime after he had, with due consideration, doubtless, of Dalyell's fitness for the office, been placed in the fangs of that merciless persecutor; but, on the 7th of August, after being tried in vain with the *thumbikens*, in which "his thumbs were crushed," and being about to be again tortured in the *boots*, he then, says Fountainhall, became "frighted, and desired time, and he would tell what he knew; whereon, they gave him some time, and sequestrated him in the Castle of Edinburgh, as a place where he would be free from any bad advice to be obstinate in not revealing." It is upon this occasion that Fountainhall mentions the origin of the *thumbikens*, stating, that this instrument was "a *new* invention used among the colliers upon transgressors, and discovered by General Dalyell and Drummond, they having seen them used in Muscovy."*

The account which Bishop Burnet

* Maclaurin's *Criminal Cases*, Introduct. p. 35.

† Quoted by Maclaurin, Ibid. p. 36.

‡ See *News from Scotland, declaring the damnable life of Doctor Fian, a notable sorcerer, who was burned at Edinburgh in Januarie last*, 1591.

§ *Dictionary*, v. Thumbikens. We wish the learned author would, before he publishes another edition of his *Dictionary*, extend his researches to the *pilniewinks*, *caspicaws*, and *tosots*, implements which he has wholly overlooked; though they seem to have been at one time as freely employed upon the persecuted witches, as the *thumbikens* upon the persecuted Presbyterians.

* *Decisions*, Vol. I. p. 299, 300.

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gives of the torturing of Spence, confirms the then recent use of the *thumbikens*. "Spence," says he, "was struck in the boots, and continued firm. Then a new species of torture was invented; he was kept from sleep eight or nine nights. They grew weary of managing this; so a third species was invented; little screws of steel were made use of, that screwed the thumbs with so exquisite a torment, that he sunk under it." This point, we think, is put beyond all doubt by the following act of the Privy Council in 1684, quoted in Wodrow's invaluable *History*. "Whereas there is *now a new invention and engine called the thumbikens*, which will be very effectual to the purpose and intent foresaid, (*i. e.* to expiscate matters relating to the government;) the Lords of his Majesty's Council do therefore ordain, that when any person shall by their order be put to the torture, that the *boots* and *thumbikens* both be applied to them, as it shall be found fit and convenient." *

Thus, then, it seems clear, that the *thumbikens*, whether imported from abroad, or invented at home, was a mode of torture which had been only recently introduced, at the frightful period to which we have just been referring;—a period well fitted, either for the reception or the production of any new device, calculated to extend the outrages of power over its unhappy victims. This being the case, we see no good reason for not going a step farther, and taking the account of its introduction which is given by Lord Fountainhall. It was upon the persecuted Presbyterians that this species of torture was first inflicted; and who among all their persecutors was there more likely to enhance their sufferings by any new device, than the ruthless commanders, whom this Judge, their contemporary, points out as its authors?

It was during this atrocious persecution, when every right and feeling of humanity were trampled under foot, with a degree of wantonness and barbarity unparalleled in the annals of any other country, that the use of the torture reached its height. "To so great an extent," says Mr Hume in his *Commentaries on the*

* *History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland*, Vol. II. p. 347.

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Criminal Law, "was this iniquity carried in those days, that confessions obtained in this way were made use of as an evidence *in modum adminiculi*, towards the conviction even of third parties;—the confession of William Carstares, for instance, against Baillie of Jerviswood."* Every one at all acquainted with our history must know that Mr Carstares, afterwards Principal of the University of Edinburgh, was deeply concerned in those unfortunate transactions, which brought Argyll to the scaffold in Scotland, and Russel and Sydney in England. He was seized in England, and being sent to Scotland, was, on the 5th of September 1684, † tortured with the *thumbikens* before the secret committee of the Privy Council, in order to force him to reveal the names and designs of his associates. An hour and a half of this cruel operation, during which the sweat streamed from his face, and some cries of agony were extorted, did not, however, render him subservient to the wishes of his inhuman tormentors; among whom the Earl of Perth, true to the general infamy and atrocity of his character, stood conspicuous; urging the executioner to press the screws, while the Duke of Hamilton and the Earl of Queensberry left the room, unable any longer to witness the revolting spectacle. ‡ It was this same miscreant, Perth, who, some time before, at the trial of Sir Hugh Campbell, accused of rebellion, endeavoured, in his then capacity of Justice-General, to urge on and to lead a suborned witness, who was unable to say any thing against the prisoner, till he, the Justice-General, was stopped by the jury; and this because he had obtained a promise of Sir Hugh's estate for his brother, provided Sir Hugh should be condemned. He was accustomed, as Burnet tells us * the Duke of York when in Scotland had been, to behold the sufferings of those tortured before him "with an unmoved indifference, and with an attention, as if he had been to look on some curious experiment." † Carstares, as we have said, did not utter any confession when under the hands of this arch inquisitor, though the passage quoted above from Mr Hume's *Commentaries* might lead the reader to that conclusion; as would also the first notice of his case by Lord Fountainhall. ‡ It appears that he was afterwards prevailed upon to give some information affecting Baillie of Jerviswood and others, under an express stipulation that he should not be brought forward as a witness, and that no use should be made of his communications at their trial; § but no faith was kept with him in this respect; and his declaration so obtained was, as Mr Hume states, admitted as an adminicle of evidence in the shameful trial and condemnation of Mr Baillie.

It would appear, from Fountainhall, that the new torture of the *thumbikens* was looked upon as extremely cruel; and he adds, that the Privy Council would have "contracted some tash" by the frequent use of it at this time, had they not succeeded in thereby extorting some confessions. He mentions, too, that, in some of these successful cases, it had proved its efficiency over the *boots*, because tried upon persons having small legs. ‖

After the Revolution, the Privy Council of Scotland presented Mr Carstares with the identical *thumbikens* with which he had been tortured in 1684. ¶ This curious relic is still preserved by Mr Dunlop, who has kindly enabled us to give the figure of it, which accompanies this article, and which the engraver has contrived to exhibit in such a way as

* See Hume's *Commentaries*, Vol. II. ch. 12.—Nothing can more clearly shew the darkness of men's minds in those dire times, as to the plainest principles of justice and evidence, than the following passage of Lord Fountainhall. "Some *doubted* how far testimonies extorted *per torturam* could be probative against third parties, seeing witnesses should be so far voluntary and spontaneous, as to be under no terrors of life or limb; but others judged them best to be credited then." *Decisions*, Vol. I. p. 303.

† Fountainhall's *Decisions*, Vol. I. p. 302.

‡ M'Cormick's *Life of Carstares*, prefixed to his *State Papers*.

* Burnet, Vol. II. p. 249.

† Ibid. p. 252.

‡ Vol. I. p. 302.

§ Fount. ibid. p. 326; M'Cormick's *Life of Carstares*, p. 20, 21; and Burnet, Vol. II. p. 256.

‖ Vol. I. p. 303.

¶ M'Cormick's *Life of Carstares*.

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to represent a picture of the *thumbikens* in action. There is an anecdote handed down among the descendants of Mr Carstares, in regard to this instrument, which we shall copy here, as we find it narrated in the fifth volume of the *Statistical Account of Scotland.* "I have heard, Principal," said King William to him, when he waited on his Majesty after the Revolution, "that you were tortured with something they call *thumbikens;* pray what sort of instrument of torture is it?" "I will shew it you," replied Carstares, "the next time I have the honour to wait on your Majesty." The Principal was as good as his word.—"I must try them," said the King;—"I must put in my thumbs here—now, Principal, turn the screw.—O not so gently—another turn—another—Stop! stop! no more—another turn, I'm afraid, would make me confess any thing."

What share of truth there may be in this story, we know not; but whatever King William's personal opinion of the use of torture may have been, thus much is certain, that there is one case recorded in the proceedings of the Privy Council of Scotland, which shews that the *thumbikens* were employed under the sanction of his sign manual, in the year 1690. This was in the case of Neville Penn or Payne, the person to whom George Duke of Buckingham addressed his *Essay upon Reason and Religion.* He was accused of having gone to Scotland to promote a Jacobite plot; and was, in consequence of the king's warrant already mentioned, "put to the torture of the *thumbikens,*" but without making any disclosure.* This was, we believe, the last occasion on which this instrument was employed; but it was not till the year of the Union that torture was expressly forbidden by law in Scotland; the Claim of Right in 1689 having only declared, "that the using torture *without evidence,* or in *ordinary crimes,* was illegal."

We close these hasty memoranda of the history of the *thumbikens,* an instrument of vulgar sound, but well calculated, as we have seen, for terrible purposes, with this reflection,—That it is never useless to explore any piece of history which illustrates the state of manners and law,—which makes us acquainted with the heroic sufferings of our forefathers, and the evil doings of their rulers,—which is calculated to sharpen our moral feelings against the abuses of power, or to shew, what is more grateful, the solid advances made by our country in the arts of legislation and government.

* Rose's *Observations on Mr Fox's Historical Work,* p. 179, 180.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM DAVID HUME TO JOHN HOME, WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF A RARE AND CURIOUS TRACT CHARACTERIZED IN THAT LETTER.

The annexed letter from David Hume to the author of *Douglas,* with which the public is now, for the first time, presented, is both curious and interesting; curious, from its allusion to a clever *jeu d'esprit,* which appeared in Edinburgh in 1774, but which is now of the greatest rarity; and interesting, from the specimen it affords of that gay and easy humour which distinguished the familiar correspondence of this eminent writer. The small satirical tract to which the letter refers, is entitled, *A specimen of the Scots Review.* It consists of thirty pages, neatly printed in octavo, but without the name of any printer or publisher. It professes to give a prospectus and a specimen of an intended new review; but the whole object seems to have been, to laugh at some individuals obnoxious to the writer, and particularly to ridicule the virulence, and to lower the pretensions of those who had signalized themselves by their attacks upon the philosophical writings of Mr Hume. A promise is held out, that this "arch-infidel" is himself to be reviewed, in the first place; and next, "those authors who have waged an holy war against him;" of whom a list is given, with their characters, the delineation of which, in no very favourable colours, appears, as already mentioned, to have exhausted the main object of the piece, though one or two gentle hits are aimed at the historian himself.

"*St Andrew's Square,*
4th of June 1774.

"Dear John,—The enclosed came to hand to-day, and, as I take it to be directed to you, I have sent it you. If on opening it you find otherwise, you

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may return it me, that I may find the true owner.

"You have seen, no doubt, the specimen of a Scotch Review. My first conjecture was, that Carlyle* was the author; but Dr Blair had convinced me that it is much more probably the production of your spiritual guide, Tom Hepburn.† But, whoever be the father, the child has a great deal of salt, and spirit, and humour. I wish he would continue, though at the hazard of my getting a rap over the knuckles from time to time. For I see in this hero the spirit of a drawcansir, who spares neither friend nor foe. I think I can reckon about twenty people, not including the king, whom he has attacked in this short performance. I hope all his spleen is not exhausted. I should desire my compliments to him, were I not afraid that he would interpret the civility as paying *black maill* ‡ to him. I am, Dear John, yours sincerely,

DAVID HUME."

VIEW OF THE CHANGE OF MANNERS IN SCOTLAND DURING THE COURSE OF THE LAST CENTURY.

[The following remarks, which will be found extremely curious and valuable, were written by a lady of an ancient family in Renfrewshire, who was as much distinguished for goodness of heart as solidity of judgment;—they are now first printed from the original manuscript.]

I AM sensible, that, in order to make these remarks properly, it is necessary one should have lived more in the world than I did during the times I write of, as the manners in the chief towns would be something different from those in the country; but, as our customs are brought from the metropolis, the people of fashion in the country cannot be far behind. The year 1727 is as far back as I can remember; at that time there was little bread in Scotland, manufactories brought to no perfection either in linen or woollen; every woman made her web, and bleached it herself; it never rose higher than two shillings a yard, and with this cloth was every one clothed. The young men, who were at this time growing more nice, got theirs from Holland for shirts, but the old ones were satisfied with necks and sleeves of the fine, which were put on loose above the country cloth. I remember in the 30 or 31 of a ball, where it was agreed that the company should be dressed in nothing but home manufactures. My sisters were as well dressed as any, and their gowns were stript linen at 2s. 6d. a yard; their heads and ruffles were of Paisley muslins, at 4s. 6d. with 4d edging from Hamilton, all of them the finest that could be got. A few years after this weavers were brought from Holland, and manufactories for linen established in the west. The dress of the ladies was more expensive than at present, though not so often renewed. At the time, I remember, hoops were wore constantly four yards and a half wide, which required much silk to cover them; and gold and silver was much used for trimmings, never less than three rows round the petticoat. Their heads were all dressed with lace from Flanders, no blonds nor coarse edging used: the price of these were high, but two suit would serve for life. They were not renewed but at marriage, or some great event; who could not afford them wore fringes of thread. Their tables were as full as at present, though the meat was ill cooked, and as badly served up. They ate out of pewter, often not clean, but were nicer in table linen than now, which was renewed every day in gentlemen's families, and always napkins. The servants ate ill, having a set form by the week of three days broth and salt meat, and three days meagre, with plenty of oat bread, and small beer. Their wages were small till the vails were abolished; the men from L. 3 to L. 9 in the year, the women from 30s. to L. 2. At those times I mention, few of the women servants would either sew, or iron linen, which was all smoothed in the mangle, except the ladies' head dresses, which were done by their own maids. They in general employed as many servants as they do at present in the country, not.

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* Reverend Dr Carlyle, minister of Inveresk.

† Reverend Thomas Hepburn, minister of Athelstonford, Of this ingenious gentleman we hope to give a biographical notice in an early Number.

‡ This was a sort of tax paid to freebooters, to obtain exemption from their inroads.

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in towns where one man-servant was thought sufficient for most families, or two at most, unless they kept a carriage, which was a thing very uncommon in those days, and only used by the nobles of great fortune. The price of provisions were about a third of what they are now. Beef from 1½d. to 2d. a pound; butter 3d.; cheese 2d.; eggs 1d. a dozen; a fowl 4d.; turkies and geese 1s. Neither was the price of provisions much increased till after the rebellion in 45, when riches flowed much into the country.

Had we a particular account of the manners of our own country, and of the changes that have taken place from time to time since the reign of William the Conqueror, no history could be more entertaining. But those changes have been so little marked, that what knowledge we have of them we owe more to the essay writers in Queen Anne's time, than to any of our historians. Addison, Pope, and Swift, give us some idea of the manners of the times they wrote in; since that period the information we have had from our parents and our own observation only can instruct us. It is to be wished that some good writer would make his observations on this subject during his own life, which, if carried down by others, would contain both useful and entertaining knowledge. Nobody that has lived any time in the world but must have made remarks of this kind, though it is only the men of genius that can make the proper use of them, by representing the good or ill consequences they may have on society.

Those changes I have lived myself to see, I wish to remember and mark for my own use; my observations cannot go much farther back than the year 1730, which period verged on the age of my grandfather, who was one of those born betwixt the 60 and 70 of the century before, many of whom remained beyond the period above mentioned. Their manners were peculiar to themselves; as some part of the old feudal system still remained, every master was revered by his family, honoured by his tenants, and aweful to his domestics; his hours of eating, sleeping, and amusement, were carefully attended to by all his family, and by all his guests. Even his hours of devotion were marked, that nothing might interrupt him; he kept his own seat by the fire, or at table, with his hat on his head, and often particular dishes served up for himself, that no one else shared of. Their children approached them with awe, and never spoke with any degree of freedom before them. The consequence of this was, that, except at meals, they were never together, though the reverence they had for their parents taught them obedience, modesty, temperance. No one helped themselves at table, nor was it the fashion to eat up what was put on their plate, so that the mistress of the family might give you a full meal or not, as she pleased, from whence came in the fashion of pressing to eat, so far as to be disagreeable.

Before the Union, and for many years after it, money was very scarce in Scotland. A country without trade, or culture, or money to carry on either, must improve by slow degrees. A great part of the rents of estates were paid in kind; this allowed gentlemen to live comfortably at home, though they could not elsewhere,—it introduced that hospitality so much boasted of in Britain. This way of life led to manners very different from the present,—nothing could affect them more than the restraint young people were under in presence of their parents; there was little intercourse between the old and the young,—the parents had their own guests, which consisted for the most part of their own relations, and near neighbours. As few people could afford to go to town in the winter, their acquaintance was much confined. The children of this small society were under a necessity of being companions to each other; this produced many strong friendships, and strong attachments, and frequently very improper marriages. By their society being confined, their affections were less diffused, and centered all in their own family circle. There was no enlargement of mind here;—their manners were the same, and their sentiments the same. They were indulgent to the faults of each other, but most severe on those they were not accustomed to, so that censure and detraction seemed to be the vice of the age.

From this education proceeded pride of understanding, bigotry in religion,

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and want of refinement in every useful art.

While the parents were both alive, the mother could give little attention to her girls,—domestick affairs, and amusing her husband, was the business of a good wife. Those who could afford governesses for their children, had them, but all they could learn from them was to read English, and plain work: the chief thing required was to hear them repeat psalms, and long catechisms, in which they were employed an hour or more every day, and almost the whole day on Sunday. If there was no governess to perform this, it was done by the chaplain, of which there were one in every family. No attention was given to what we call accomplishments; reading or writing well, or even spelling, were never thought of; musick, drawing, or French, were seldom taught the girls. They were allowed to run about, and amuse themselves in the way they chose, even to womanhood, at which time they were generally sent to Edinburgh a winter or two to learn to dress themselves, to dance, and to see a little of the world. This world was only to be seen at church, at marriages, burials, and baptisms. These were the only public places where the ladies went in full dress, and as they walked the streets, they were seen by every body; but it was the fashion in undress always to be masked. When in the country, their employment was in coloured work, beds, tapestry, and other pieces of furniture, imitations of fruits and flowers, with very little taste. If they read any, it was either books of devotion, or long romances, and sometimes both. They never ate a full meal at table, it was thought very indelicate; but they took care to have something before dinner, that they might behave with propriety in company.

From the accounts given by old people who lived in this time, we have reason to believe there was as little care taken of the young men's education as that of women, excepting those who were intended for learned professions, who got a regular education at schools and colleges; but the generality of country gentlemen, and even noblemen, were contented with the instruction given by the chaplain to their sons.

That the manners of the times I write of may be shewn in a fuller light, I shall give Mr Barclay's relation of the most memorable things that passed in his father's house, from the beginning of the century to the year 14, in which his father died. "My brother," says he, "was married in the year 4, at the age of 21; few men were unmarried after this time of life. I myself was married by my friends at 18, which was thought a proper age. Sir James Stuart's marriage with President Dalrymple's second daughter brought together a number of people related to both families. At the signing of the eldest Miss Dalrymple's contract the year before, there was an entire hogshead of wine drank that night, and the number of people at Sir James Stuart's was little less. The marriage was in the President's house, with as many of the relations as it would hold. The bride's favours were all sewed on her gown, from top to bottom, and round the neck and sleeves. The moment the ceremony was performed, the whole company ran to her, and pulled off the favours; in an instant she was stript of them all. The next ceremony was the garter, which the bridegroom's man attempted to pull from her leg, but she dropt it on the floor; it was a white and silver ribbon, which was cut in small morsels to every one in company. The bride's mother then came in with a basket of favours belonging to the bridegroom; those and the bride's were the same with the bearings of their families; her's pink and white, his blue and gold colour." *

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* The indelicate custom of seizing the bride's garter is thus commemorated in "The Bridals, a play written by the thrice noble, illustrious, and excellent Princesse, the Duchess of Newcastle," and printed 1668.

[Enter the Brides and Bridegrooms, and all the Bridal Guests, Sir Mercury Poet, one of the Bride-men, and the Lady Fancy, one of the Bride-maids, that helps to lead one of the Brides to the church.]

Adviser. Gentlemen bridegrooms, we must rifle your brides of their bride-garters.

Sir J. Amorous. If it be the custom, I submit.

Sage. But I will not agree to such an

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The company dined and supped together, and had a ball in the evening; the same next day at Sir James Stuart's. On Sunday there went from the President's house to church three and twenty couple, all in high dress; Mr Barclay, then a boy, led the youngest Miss Dalrymple, who was the last of them. They filled the galereys of the church from the King's seat to the wing loft. The feasting continued till they had gone through all the friends of the family, with a ball every night.

As the baptisms was another public place, he goes on to describe it thus:

"On the fourth week after the lady's delivery, she was set on her bed, on a low footstool, the bed covered with some neat piece of sewed work, or white satin, with three pillows at her back, covered with the same, she in full dress, with a lappit head-dress, and a fan in her hand. Having informed her acquaintance what day she is to see company, they all come and pay their respects to her, standing or walking a little through the room, for there are no chairs; they drink a glass of wine, and eat a piece of cake, and then give place to others. Towards the end of the week all the friends were asked to what was called the Cummerfalls; this was a supper where every gentleman brought a pint of wine to be drunk by him and his wife. The supper was, a ham at the head, and a pyramid of fowls at the bottom, hens and ducks below, partridges at top; there was an eating posset in the middle of the table, with dried fruits and sweetmeats at the sides. When they had finished their supper, the meat was removed, and in an instant every one flies to the sweetmeats to pocket them, on which a scramble ensued, chairs overturned, and every thing on the table,—wrestling and pulling at one another with the utmost noise and violence. When all was quiet, they went to the stoups, (for there was no bottles for wine,) of which the women had a good share; for, though it was a disgrace to be seen drunk, yet it was none to be a little intoxicated in good company.* A few days after this, the same company were asked to the christening, which was always in the church, all in high dress, a number of them young ladies, who were called maiden cimmers; one of them presented the child to the father. After the ceremony, they dined and supped together, and the night often concluded by a ball."

The burials are the only solemnities now to be taken notice of. It was always on foot. The magistrates and town-council were always invited to that of every person of any consideration. "1500 burial-letters were wrote," says Mr Barclay, "at my father's death; the General Assembly was sitting at the time, and all the clergy were asked; and so great was the crowd, that the magistrates were at the grave in the Grey Friars churchyard, before the corpse was taken out of the house in the foot of the Advocates' Close. A few years before this, it had ceased to be the fashion for ladies to walk behind the corpse, in full dress, with coloured clothes; but formerly the chesting was at the same time, and all the female relations asked, which made part of the procession."

At this time acts of devotion employed much of their time; see the same gentleman's accounts of a Sunday past at his father's house. Prayers by the chaplain at nine o'clock,—all went regularly to church at ten, the women in high dress; he himself was employed to give the collection

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uncivil custom, for no man shall pull off my wife's garters, unless it be myself.

Vertue. We have pulled off our garters already, and therefore if these batchellor-gentlemen will have them, we will send for them.

Facil. Pray ladies let us have them, for the bride-garters are the young batchellors' fees.

Courtly. Since we must not rifle for their garters, let us cast dice for them.

Takepleasure. Content.

Madam Mediator. The bridegroom's points being our fees, therefore we must rifle for the points.

Sir W. Sage. If you please, ladies, we are ready to be rifled.

[The women offer to take off the points, but Lady Vertue hinders them.]

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* If we ought to yield any credit to a French author, the English ladies, during the reign of King Charles the First, went a step beyond this in the liberal use of wine.—*La Courtisanne Dechifrée, dediée aux Dames Vertueuses de ce temps. à Paris*, 1642. 8vo.

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for the family, which consisted of a crown,—half after twelve they came home,—at one had prayers again by the chaplain, after which they had a bit of cold meat or eggs, and returned to church at two. At four every one retired to their private devotions, except the children and servants, who were convened by the chaplain, and examined;—this continued till five, when supper was served up, or rather dinner; a few male friends generally partook of this meal, and sat till eight, after which psalm-singing, reading, and prayers, was performed by the old gentleman himself, after which they all retired.

Whether the genius of a people forms their religious sentiments, or if religion forms, in some measure, the manners of a people, I shall leave the wise to decide. I shall only observe, that while that reverence remained in the minds of men for masters, fathers, and heads of clans, it was then that the dread of Deity was most powerful; this will appear from the superstitious writings of the times. The fear of hell, and deceitful power of the devil, was at the bottom of all their religious sentiments. The established belief in witchcraft, for which many suffered, prevailed much at this time; ghosts too, and apparitions of various kinds; few old houses were without a ghost-chamber, that few had courage to sleep in; omens and dreams were much regarded even by people of the best education. These were the manners of the last century, and remained in part for thirty years in this.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PAUL JONES.

All our readers must have heard of this daring naval adventurer, and many of them are old enough to recollect the alarm and terror which the name of Paul Jones spread along our coasts during the war with America. This distinguished person was the son of a small farmer a few miles from Dumfries, and, impelled by that love of enterprise which is so frequently to be met with among the peasantry of Scotland, seems to have eagerly embarked in the cause of the colonies against the mother country. Whether he was actuated in any degree by a sense of the injustice of Britain towards America, at the outset of his career, or merely availed himself of the opportunities in which revolutionary warfare so greatly abounds to rise from his original obscurity, it is now perhaps impossible to determine, and unnecessary to inquire. But it will be seen from the letters we are going to lay before our readers, that, in the progress of his adventurous life, he well knew how to employ the language of men inspired with the love of liberty; and that he was honoured by some of its warmest friends in both hemispheres. It is far from our intention to offer any thing in justification of the very conspicuous part he acted against this, his native country; yet it is impossible not to admire the gentle and kindly feelings which directed his conduct towards Lady Selkirk, so opposite to the character of a pirate as he was represented to be, and the very handsome manner in which he repaired the injury which policy perhaps compelled him to inflict. There are probably few instances, especially among adventurers who have risen from the condition in which Paul Jones was originally placed,—of more enlarged views,—more generous feelings,—and a more disinterested conduct, than the following letters exhibit, combined as these are with sentiments of relentless hostility towards the claims of his native country. Such a picture, of which the view is at all times refreshing, ought to be held up to the eyes of those who are now engaged in similar struggles in another quarter of the world. Good policy, in the absence of higher motives, may induce those who direct and regulate the movements of revolutionary warfare, as well as those who are impelled by the storm, to atone, in some measure, by acts of forbearance and generosity, for the injuries to which the helpless and the innocent are peculiarly exposed in the infuriate contests between a people and their rulers.

In the progress of the revolutionary war, Paul Jones obtained the command of a squadron, with which, in 1778, he undertook to annoy the coasts of Great Britain. On the 2d December 1777, he arrived at Nantes, and in January repaired to Paris, with the view of making arrangements with the American ministers and the French government. In February he conveyed

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some American vessels to the Bay of Quiberon; and, on his return to Brest, communicated his plan to Admiral D'Aruilliers, who afforded him every means of forwarding it. He accordingly left Brest, and sailed through the Bristol Channel, without giving any alarm. Early in the morning of the 23d April he made an attack on the harbour of Whitehaven, in which there were about 400 sail. He succeeded in setting fire to several vessels, but was not able to effect any thing decisive before day-light, when he was obliged to retire.

The next exploit, which took place on the same day, was the plunder of Lord Selkirk's house, in St Mary's Isle, near the town of Kirkcudbright. The particulars of this event, and of the action which succeeded, as well as the motives upon which Jones acted, are well given in the following letter,* which he addressed to Lady Selkirk:

Ranger, Brest, 8th May 1778.

MADAM,—It cannot be too much lamented, that, in the profession of arms, the officer of fine feeling, and of real sensibility, should be under the necessity of winking at any action of persons under his command which his heart cannot approve; but the reflection is doubly severe, when he finds himself obliged, in appearance, to countenance such action by his authority.

This hard case was mine, when, on the 23d of April last, I landed on St Mary's Isle. Knowing Lord Selkirk's interest with his king, and esteeming, *as I do*, his private character, I wished to make him the happy instrument of alleviating the horrors of hopeless captivity, when the brave are overpowered and made prisoners of war. It was, perhaps, fortunate for you, Madam, that he was from home, for it was my intention to have taken him on board the Ranger, and to have detained him until, through his means, a general and fair exchange of prisoners, as well in Europe as in America, had been effected.

When I was informed by some men whom I met at landing, that his lordship was absent, I walked back to my boat, determined to leave the island. By the way, however, some officers who were with me could not forbear expressing their discontent, observing, that, in America, no delicacy was shewn by the English, who took away all sorts of moveable property, setting fire not only to towns, and to the houses of the rich without distinction, but not even sparing the wretched hamlets and milch cows of the poor and helpless, at the approach of an inclement winter. That party had been with me as volunteers the same morning at Whitehaven; some complaisance, therefore, was their due. I had but a moment to think how I might gratify them, and at the same time do your ladyship the least injury. I charged the two officers to permit none of the seamen to enter the house, or to hurt any thing about it; to treat you, Madam, with the utmost respect; to accept of the plate which was offered; and to come away without making a search, or demanding any thing else. I am induced to believe that I was punctually obeyed, since I am informed that the plate which they brought away is far short of the quantity expressed in the inventory which accompanied it. I have gratified my men; and, when the plate is sold, I shall become the purchaser, and will *gratify my own feelings*, by restoring it to you by such conveyance as you shall please to direct.

Had the earl been on board the Ranger the following evening, he would have seen the awful pomp and dreadful carnage of a sea engagement; both affording ample subject for the pencil, as well as melancholy reflection for the contemplative mind. Humanity starts back at such scenes of horror, and cannot but execrate the vile promoters of this detested war,

> For *they*, 'twas *they*, unsheathed the ruthless blade,
> And heaven shall ask the havock it has made.

The British ship of war Drake, mounting 20 guns, with more than her full complement of officers and men, besides a number of volunteers, came out from Carrickfergus, in order to attack and take the American continental ship of war Ranger, of 18 guns, and short of her complement

* This, and perhaps the following letter, have been already printed, but not in any durable or accessible repository; none of the other letters, in so far as we know, have ever been printed. The original letters of Franklin and Kosciuszko are now before us, written, as well as addressed, with their own hands.—*Editor.*

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of officers and men. The ships met, and the advantage was disputed with great fortitude on each side for an hour and five minutes, when the gallant commander of the Drake fell, and victory declared in favour of the Ranger. His amiable lieutenant lay mortally wounded, besides near forty of the inferior officers and crew killed and wounded.

A melancholy demonstration of the uncertainty of human prospects,—I buried them in a spacious grave, with the honours due to the memory of the brave.

Though I have drawn my sword in the present generous struggle for the rights of men, yet I am not in arms merely as an American, nor am I in pursuit of riches. My fortune is liberal enough, having no wife nor family, and having lived long enough to know that riches cannot ensure happiness. I profess myself a citizen of the world, totally unfettered by the little mean distinctions of climate or of country, which diminish the benevolence of the heart, and set bounds to philanthropy. Before this war began, I had, at an early time of life, withdrawn from the sea-service, in favour of "calm contemplation and poetic ease." I have sacrificed, not only my favourite scheme of life, *but the softer affections of the heart*, and my prospects of domestic happiness; and I am ready to sacrifice my life also with cheerfulness, if that forfeiture would restore peace and goodwill among mankind.

As the feelings of your gentle bosom cannot, in that respect, but be congenial with mine, let me intreat you, Madam, to use your soft persuasive arts with your husband, to endeavour to stop this cruel and destructive war, in which Britain never can succeed. Heaven can never countenance the barbarous and unmanly practices of the Britons in America, which savages would blush at, and which, if not discontinued, will soon be retaliated in Britain by a justly enraged people. Should you fail in this, (for I am persuaded that you will attempt it, and who can resist the power of such an advocate?) your endeavours to effect a general exchange of prisoners will be an act of humanity, which will afford you golden feelings on a death-bed.

I hope this cruel contest will soon be closed,—but, should it continue, —I wage no war with the fair!—I acknowledge their power, and bend before it with profound submission! Let not, therefore, the amiable Countess of Selkirk regard me as an enemy,—I am ambitious of her esteem and friendship, and would do any thing consistent with my duty to merit it.

The honour of a line from your hand, in answer to this, will lay me under a very singular obligation; and if I can render you any acceptable service, in France or elsewhere, I hope you see into my character so far, as to command me without the least grain of reserve. I wish to know exactly the behaviour of my people, as I determine to punish them if they have exceeded their liberty.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem, and with profound respect, Madam, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

(Signed) PAUL JONES.

To the Right Honourable the Countess of Selkirk, St Mary's Isle, Scotland.

The correctness of the facts here stated is confirmed by the following account given at the time in the Scots Magazine:

"Between ten and eleven, a servant brought word, that a press-gang had landed near the house. This the party from the privateer had given out, in order, as was supposed, to get out of the way all the servants and others who might oppose them. Presently between thirty and forty armed men came up; all of whom planted themselves round the house, except three, who entered, each with two horse-pistols at his side; and, with bayonets fixed, they demanded to see the lady of the house; and, upon her appearing, told her, with a mixture of rudeness and civility, who they were, and that all the plate must be delivered to them. Lady Selkirk behaved with great composure and presence of mind. She soon directed her plate to be delivered; with which, without doing any other damage, or asking for watches, jewels, or any thing else, (which is odd,) the gentlemen made off. There is reason to think that there were some people among them acquainted with persons and places, and, in particular, one fel-

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low, supposed to have been once a waiter at an inn in Kirkcudbright. The leader of the party, who was not the captain of the vessel, told, that their intention was to seize Lord Selkirk, who is now in London."

It appears, accordingly, that Paul Jones actually purchased the plate, and embraced the first opportunity, after peace, to transmit it to Lord Selkirk, accompanied by the following letter:

Paris, February 12, 1784.

My Lord,—I have just received a letter from Mr Nesbitt, dated at L'Orient the 4th instant, mentioning a letter to him from your son, Lord Daer, on the subject of the plate that was taken from your house by some of my people, when I commanded the Ranger, and has been for a long time past in Mr Nesbitt's care. A short time before I left France to return to America, Mr W. Alexander wrote me from Paris to L'Orient, that he had, at my request, seen and conversed with your Lordship in England respecting the plate. He said you had agreed that I should restore it, and that it might be forwarded to the care of your sister-in-law, the Countess of Morton, in London. In consequence, I now send orders to Mr Nesbitt to forward the plate immediately to her care. When I received Mr Alexander's letter, there was no cartel or other vessel at L'Orient that I could trust with a charge of so delicate a nature as your plate; and I had great reason to expect I should have returned to France within six months after I embarked for America. But circumstances in America prevented my returning to Europe during the war, though I had constant expectation of it.

The long delay that has happened to the restoration of your plate has given me much concern, and I now feel a proportionate pleasure in fulfilling what was my first intention. My motive for landing at your estate in Scotland was to take *you* as an hostage for the lives and liberty of a number of the citizens of America, who had been taken in war on the ocean, and committed to British prisons under an act of Parliament, as "*traitors, pirates*, and *felons*." You observed to Mr Alexander, that my idea was a mistaken one, because you were not (as I had supposed) in favour with the British ministry, who knew that you favoured the cause of liberty. On that account, I am glad that you were absent from your estate when I landed there, as I bore no personal enmity, but the contrary, towards you. I afterwards had the happiness to redeem my fellow citizens from Britain, by means far more glorious than through the medium of any single hostage.

As I have endeavoured to serve the cause of liberty through every stage of the American revolution, and sacrificed to it my private ease, a part of my fortune, and some of my blood, I could have no selfish motive in permitting my people to demand and carry off your plate. My sole inducement was to turn their attention, and stop their rage from breaking out, and retaliating on your house and effects the too wanton burnings and desolation that had been committed against their relations and fellow citizens in America by the British; of which, I assure you, you would have felt the severe consequence, had I not fallen on an expedient to prevent it, and hurried my people away before they had time for further reflection. As you were so obliging as to say to Mr Alexander, that my people behaved with great decency at your house, I ask the favour of you to announce that circumstance to the public. I am, my Lord, wishing you always perfect freedom and happiness, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

(Signed) Paul Jones.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Selkirk, in Scotland.

After his combat with the *Drake*, Paul Jones sailed round the north of Scotland, and, on the 5th September, was seen off Lerwick. He did no damage, however, except carrying off a boat and four men from the island of Mousa. He then proceeded along the east coast of Scotland. In the middle of September he sailed up the Firth of Forth, and on the 17th was seen nearly opposite to Leith, below the island of Inchkeith. A violent south-west wind, however, having arisen, drove his squadron so rapidly down the Firth, as to be soon out of sight. He had taken and plundered a few prizes. He sailed next to the

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Texel, into which he carried, as prizes, two British vessels of war, the Serapis, and the Countess of Scarborough, which, after an obstinate engagement, he had captured near Flamborough Head. On this occasion, the British minister made urgent demands that the prizes, as well as Paul Jones himself, and his squadron, should be delivered up to his government. The Dutch, however, on the 25th October, came to this resolution: "That they could not pretend to judge of the legality or illegality of the actions of those who had taken, on the open sea, vessels not belonging to themselves; that they had merely given them shelter from storms, and would oblige them to put to sea, so that the British might themselves have an opportunity of taking them." To this resolution they adhered, notwithstanding the warmest remonstrances of the British minister.

During the course of Jones's stay at the Texel, he addressed the following letters to the Dutch Admiral, Baron Vander Capellen:—

On board the Serapis at the Texel, Oct. 19, 1779.

My Lord,—Human nature, and America, are under very singular obligations to you for your patriotism and friendship; and I feel every grateful sentiment for your generous and polite letter.

Agreeable to your request, I have the honour to inclose a copy of my letter to his Excellency Dr Franklin, containing a particular account of my late expedition on the coasts of Britain and Ireland; by which you will see that I have already been praised more than I have deserved. But I must, at the same time, beg leave to observe, that by the other papers which I take the liberty to inclose, (particularly the copy of my letter to the Countess of Selkirk, dated the day of my arrival at Brest from the Irish Sea,) I hope you will be convinced that in the British prints I have been censured unjustly. I was indeed born in Britain, but I do not inherit the degenerate spirit of that fallen nation, which I at once lament and despise. It is far beneath me to reply to their hireling invectives; they are strangers to the inward approbation that greatly animates and rewards the man who draws his sword only in support of the dignity of freedom.

America has been the country of my fond election from the age of thirteen, when I first saw it. I had the honour to hoist, with my own hands, the flag of freedom the first time it was displayed on the Delaware; and I have attended it with veneration ever since, on the ocean. I see it respected even here in spite of the pitiful Sir Joseph (Yorke;) and I ardently wish and hope very soon to exchange a salute with the flag of this republic. Let but the two republics join hands, and they will give peace to the world.

Highly ambitious to render myself worthy of your friendship, I have the honour to be, my Lord, your very obliged and most humble servant.

On board the Alliance at the Texel, Nov. 29, 1779.

My Lord,—Since I had the honour to receive your second esteemed letter, I have unexpectedly had occasion to revisit Amsterdam; and having changed ships since my return to the Texel, I have, by some accident or neglect, lost or mislaid your letter. I remember, however, the questions it contained, viz. 1*st*, Whether I ever had any obligation to Lord Selkirk? 2*d*, Whether he accepted my offer? and, 3*d*, Whether I have a French commission? I answer, I never had any obligation to Lord Selkirk, except for his good opinion; nor does he know me or mine, except by character. Lord Selkirk wrote me an answer to my letter to the Countess; but the ministry detained it in the general post-office in London for a long time, and then returned it to the author, who afterwards wrote to a friend of his, (Mr Alexander,) an acquaintance of Dr Franklin's, then at Paris, giving him an account of the fate of his letter to me, and desiring him to acquaint his Excellency and myself, that, "if the plate was restored by Congress, or by any public body, he would accept it, but that he could not think of accepting it from my private generosity." The plate has, however, been bought, agreeable to my letter to the Countess, and now lays in France at her disposal. As to the third article, I never bore, nor acted under any other commission than what I have received from the Congress of the United States of America.

I am much obliged to you, my Lord, for the honour you do me by

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proposing to publish the papers I sent you in my last; but it is an honour which I must decline, because I cannot publish my letter to that Lady without asking and obtaining the Lady's consent, and because I have a very modest opinion of my writings, being conscious that they are not of sufficient value to claim the notice of the public. I assure you, my Lord, it has given me much concern to see an extract of my rough journal in print, and that too under the disadvantage of a translation. That mistaken kindness of a friend will make me cautious how I communicate my papers. I have the honour to be, my Lord, with great esteem and respect, &c. &c.

Paul Jones continued in the American service during the remainder of the war, and, on the 14th April 1781, the Congress voted to him an address of thanks, and presented him with a gold medal. At the peace of 1783, it was agreed that Jones should return some of the prizes taken during the war, but should receive a pecuniary indemnification. To arrange this transaction, he sailed for France, and arrived at Paris, where he was received with great cordiality. In the course of his residence there, he received the following letter from Dr Franklin:

Havre, July 21, 1785.

Dear Sir,—The offer, of which you desire I would give you the particulars, was made to me by Mr Le Baron de Walterstorff, in behalf of his Majesty the King of Denmark, by whose ministers he said he was authoris'd to make it. It was to give us the sum of ten thousands pounds Sterling, as a compensation for having deliver'd up the prizes to the English. I did not accept it, conceiving it much too small a sum, they having been valued to me at fifty thousand pounds. I wrote to Mr Hodgson, an insurer in London, requesting he would procure information of the sums insur'd on those Canada ships. His answer was, that he could find no traces of such insurance; and he believ'd none was made; for that the Government, on whose account they were said to be loaded with military stores, never insur'd; but, by the best judgment he could make, he thought they might be worth about sixteen or eighteen thousand pounds each. With great esteem, I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant, B. Franklin.

Hon. Paul Jones, Esq.

We have also in our possession an original card of invitation to dinner from La Fayette, which shews the esteem in which he was held by that eminent character. He was satisfied as to his claims, and returned to America. But, in 1788, we find him offering his services to the Empress Catherine, by whom they were readily accepted. The following is the copy of a letter addressed to him by her Imperial Majesty upon this occasion:

Copie de la lettre de sa Majesté l'Imperatrice de toutes les Russies au-Contre-Amiral de Paul Jones.

Monsieur le Contre-Admiral
Paul Jones.

Un Courier de Paris vient d'aporter, de la part de mon envoyé en France M. de Simolin, la lettre si-jointe au Cte. de Besborodka. Comme je crois que cette lettre peut contribuer à vous confirmer la verité de ce que je vous ai dit de bouche, je vous l'envoy, et vous prie de me la renvoyer parceque je n'en ai pas fait tirer de copie tant je me suis hatez de vous la faire parvenir. J'espere qu'elle effaçera tout doute de votre esprit, et qu'elle vous prouvera que vous allés avoir affaire à quelqu'un qui est très-favorablement disposé à votre egard. Je ne doute nullement que de votre coté vous ne tachiés de remplir parfaitement l'opinion que nous avons de vous, et que vous vous appliqueré avec zêle à soutenir la reputation et le nom que vous ont acquis votre valeur et votre habileté très reconnue sur l'element sur lequel vous allés servir. Adieu.—Je vous souhaite bonheur et bon santé.

(Signed) Catherine.

A Czarskocelo,
11th May 1788.

What were the circumstances which disgusted Jones with the service of her Imperial Majesty, we have not yet been able to learn; but it appears that, in 1790, he was engaged in a negociation for entering into the service of her enemies. This is proved by the following very curious document, an original letter from Kosciuszko, addressed to "The Honourable Vice-Admiral Paul Jones, Amsterdam," written more politely than elegantly in English;

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Varsaw, 15th Feb. 1790.

My Dear Sir,—I had the honor to write you the 1st or the 3th of Feb. I do not recolect, but I gave you the information to apply to the Minister of Svede at Hague, or at Amsterdam for the propositions, (according to what Mr D'Engestrom told me.) They Boths had Orders to Communicate you. I wish with all my heart that could enswer your expectation I am totally ignorant what they are, but I would see you to fight against the opresion and Tyranny. Give me the news of every thing. I am, dear Sir, your most humble and most obedient servant,

T. Kosciuszko. G. M.

Write me if you please who is Minister from America at Paris; I want to know his name.

This negociation does not seem to have succeeded; and it is said that Jones in vain solicited employment from France. He died at Paris in 1792, but not, as was stated in the papers of that period, in poverty. On the contrary, we have been assured, upon the best authority, since our first edition appeared, that he left a considerable sum, which was remitted to his sisters in Scotland, the last of whom died at Dumfries on the 6th September 1817. (See page 196.) The National Assembly voted a deputation of their members to attend his funeral.—At a future period we hope to be able to lay before our readers an interesting biographical notice of this extraordinary character.

ON THE GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE CALTON HILL.

MR EDITOR,

The new approach to Edinburgh on the south-east, by a road winding over a part of the Calton Hill, and joining Prince's Street at the Register Office, is doubtless one of the most magnificent improvements of which this picturesque capital is susceptible.

Our purpose, at present, is, not to enlarge on the beauties and advantages of this new approach, but merely to notice a favour which has, by this improvement, been conferred on mineralogists, certainly without being contemplated by the public-spirited individuals who conceived it. Owing to the uniform covering of debris and of sward on the east side of the Calton Hill, the nature of the rocks constituting a great part of the hill could not be ascertained. The cutting of the new road, however, has displayed an extensive section of the strata; and this circumstance, united with others, has unfolded, in a great measure, the geognostic relations of the beds which form the entire hill.

The distinguished professor of mineralogy in our university makes it a rule to visit this hill, accompanied by the young gentlemen attending his class, and to point out the nature and relations of the rocks. We shall here give, as succinctly as possible, an idea of the succession of these, or of the structure of the hill, such as we gathered from attending the professor on one of these excursions.

In the course of some building operations at a brewery at the foot of Calton Street, some time ago, (about the beginning of the year 1816,) a bed of *sandstone*, highly siliceous, or of the nature of quartzy sandstone, was exposed to view; and, from the dip and direction of this bed being to the east, it was evident that it passed under the great mass of the hill. Sandstone was also partially displayed in digging the foundation of the large building, in North Back of Canongate, lately erected by Messrs Muir and Wood as a manufactory of musical instruments. Over the sandstone is a bed of *porphyry*, which, near to the buildings of the Bridewell, extends upwards almost to the level of the new road. To this succeeds a bed of *greenstone*, which is visible in the section formed by the new road fronting Bridewell. In proceeding upwards, examining the series of rocks from the governor's house to the base of Nelson's Monument, we observe a bed of *trap-tuff*. Over this a bed of *porphyry*; then a thin bed of *greenstone*; a second bed of *trap-tuff*, of no great thickness; another bed of *greenstone*; a third bed of *trap-tuff*, and uppermost, a thick mass of *porphyry*, forming the summit of the hill, and supporting the monument. This bed of porphyry has long been exposed, having many years ago been used as a quarry for affording small stones for laying on the high roads. It is now, however, more immediately brought into view, in consequence of the fine walk lately made in front of it, by means of the funds collected by the public for affording employment to industrious workmen, thrown idle by the difficulties of the times.

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All the beds which have been mentioned dip to the east, so that, in walking eastward, to the first turn of the new road, after passing Bridewell, the beds which pass immediately below Nelson's Monument come to be on a level with the road, and soon after even to dip under it. Accordingly, we first meet with a bed of greenstone inclining to wacke, and traversed by numerous veins of calcareous spar; and immediately the porphyry of the top comes in view. In proceeding further in the direction towards the east road to Leith, the section on the north side of the new road has displayed a series of thin beds which lie over this porphyry, or which, in geognostic situation, are superior to those which constitute the geographical summit of the hill. They occur in the following order, proceeding from below upwards: *Bituminous shale; wacke;* sandstone; bituminous shale; wacke; shale with *ironstone;* wacke; shale and ironstone, (several times repeated;) wacke, in a state of decomposition, so as to resemble fullers' earth; bituminous shale and wacke, (several times repeated;) and lastly, or geognostically uppermost, a thick bed of *sandstone-conglomerate.* Quarries have been opened in this bed of sandstone; and the under storey of the new jail was built from it; the upper part of the building having, with good taste, been constructed of finer sandstone.

We thus find that the Calton Hill consists of many beds of trap rocks, included between two great beds of sandstone; the lower of which is of the kind called quartzy sandstone; and the upper, sandstone-conglomerate.

The alternation of beds of sandstone and greenstone is seen again at Lochend, to the eastward; and, from the dip and direction of these Lochend beds, we are warranted to conclude that, if projected, they would pass *over* the Calton Hill. On the other hand, the Castle rock, situated to the westward, consists of beds of sandstone, and a thick bed of *basalt;* and, on the same data, we conclude, that this bed of basalt lies below the great bed of quartzy sandstone, on the ledge of which the High Street of Edinburgh is built, and which was seen in digging the foundation for the Bank of Scotland some years ago, and more lately in clearing out the foundation for the County Hall of Mid-Lothian; and further, that both pass *under* the Calton Hill. If all the inclined beds, from the sandstone seen running below the Castle basalt on the west side, to the sandstone and greenstone of Lochend on the east side, be, in the "mind's eye," brought to a horizontal position, so as to exhibit a perpendicular section, the height or thickness becomes indeed surprising.

It may be remarked, that the same individual beds are not, in every part of their extent, of equal thickness; on the contrary, they vary much in this respect. For instance, some one of the several beds of greenstone, which are thin on the S. E. side of the hill, has acquired considerable thickness where it appears in the quarry opened on the N. E. side of the hill. The bed alluded to lies over the sandstone which has there been quarried, and is covered by a thin bed of bituminous shale. This inequality in thickness, at different parts of the same bed, is a fact perfectly familiar to those accustomed to geognostic observation.

PAT. NEILL.

Canonmills, 2d Aug. 1817.

ABSTRACT, WITH OBSERVATIONS, OF THE EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON STEAM-BOATS.

MR EDITOR,

IN the last number of the Scots Magazine, I find inserted a valuable document, the report of the Committee of the House of Commons on steam-boats. In a question, however, in which all classes of the community are so deeply interested, the public will not be satisfied without examining for themselves the evidence from which the report was drawn up. I will frankly say, that the perusal suggested to me views of the subject not exactly agreeing with those which have been adopted by the Committee in their report. On this point, however, your readers may be able to judge, when I lay before them the principal statements actually made by those persons who were examined before the Committee.

The main points at issue are, whether the engines in steam-boats ought to be what is called *high pressure,* or whether they ought to be boilers of

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low pressure; and whether they ought to be made of *cast* iron or *wrought* iron.

It is needless to enter minutely into the difference between the structure of the high and low pressure engines; the description, indeed, could hardly be made intelligible without plates. It is enough to say, that in the low pressure, called also the condensing engine, the power of the steam can, with no advantage, be raised above six pounds upon the square inch; it may be raised higher; but there is no temptation to raise it, because no increase in the propelling power of the engine would follow. In the high pressure, on the contrary, every increase of force which the steam receives, will produce a corresponding effect in the power of the engine; it will propel the boat or machine with the greater velocity. The conductors of steam-boats have, therefore, a temptation, when "bent on speed," to increase the power of the steam beyond what the strength of the engine can bear, and consequently to produce an explosion.

The steam-boat at Norwich had a high pressure engine. Mr John Taylor states, that it was proved to the pressure of 100 on the square inch, but that no more than 40 lbs. was usually applied. Mr Bramah conceives 60 lbs. to have been the usual pressure; but both are of opinion, that, at the time of the accident, it must have been upwards of 100.

The following are the leading statements on the comparative merits, beginning with those in favour of the low pressure:

Mr Bryan Donkin.—"Is it your opinion that a boiler could be made of proper materials, with safety valves, and under proper guard and direction, to make high pressure perfectly safe?—That would depend upon the quantity of pressure to be used; a safety valve might be carried to three hundred, or to any assignable force. I think that a high pressure engine may be made safe to a certain extent, but where they are left *ad libitum*, they never can be perfectly safe.

"Is it then your opinion, that in high pressure engines carried to that extent you mention, that danger would always operate?—It would not always operate, but it would be extremely liable to accidents.

"In fact, you yourself would not choose to use a high pressure engine, from the difficulty which exists, either more or less?—That is my opinion."

Mr Timothy Bramah, engineer at Pimlico.—"Do you think that a high pressure engine, under any guard that can be applied to it, is a safe engine to use in a steam-boat?—I do not conceive it is a proper engine, or a safe one."

Mr Henry Maudeslay, engineer, Lambeth.—"I never considered high pressure engines were applicable to boats, because the purpose of a high pressure engine is to save water, and water cannot be wanted on board a vessel; the difference between the one and the other makes no saving either in the weight or expence, taking it ultimately, particularly when steam-boats are properly contrived. As far as my opinion goes as to steam-engines and steam-boats, I would not go from here to Margate in a high pressure boat."

He is afterwards asked, "According to your experience and knowledge, would a low pressure engine be safe in most cases that can occur?—I never knew a low pressure engine unsafe, but it appears that high pressure engines have been."

Mr George Dodd, an extensive proprietor of steam-boats on the Thames.—"Are all the steam-boats that you now have, or that you have had, used with condensing engines?—They are.

"Has any accident happened during the course of their being used?—The boilers of two have been injured by the imprudence of the engine workers; but no accident of any description could or has occurred to the passengers.

"Did you see the Norwich steam-packet which exploded? I have been on board her, and performed a voyage with her; I went down with a view of purchasing it; I went down for that purpose twice.

"What was your reason for not purchasing it?—Because it was a high pressure engine, and liable to the accident which has since occurred."

Mr Josias Jessop, civil engineer, Adelphi.—"There can be no doubt that an engine of low pressure must be more secure than one of high pressure; for although they may be both easily made secure originally, yet from

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the natural wear and tear, both are liable to accidents. If an accident happen to one of a high pressure, its consequences certainly will be more dangerous than that of a low pressure engine."

The following testimonies go to prove a contrary opinion:

Alexander Tilloch, editor of the Philosophical Magazine.—"My opinion is, that, attending to what should be attended to in every steam-engine, and employing proper engineers, a steam-engine would be perfectly safe, whether with high pressure or low pressure."

Mr Andrew Vivian, miner, Cornwall.—"What accidents have happened to steam boilers within your own knowledge, working either with low or high pressure steam?—I have known of no accident with high pressure steam and cast-iron boilers; but I have known an accident happen working with Boulton and Watt's low pressure engine, which was on the 28th of November 1811, in Wheal Abraham mine; a wrought-iron boiler working with low pressure steam exploded there, and scalded six men, three of whom died in the course of a week afterwards. The steam from low pressure scalds much worse than the steam from high pressure."

Mr Thomas Lean, engineer for Cornwall miners.—"You are then well acquainted with steam-engines of every various construction?—Certainly I am; I see fifty-seven every month.

"Do you conceive that there is any material difference in the respective safety of those engines?—Some of the engines are certainly safer than others.

"Be so good as to state which, and why?—I conceive there is no danger whatever in the use of high pressure steam-engines; and for this reason, that, in general, for an engine that is intended to be worked with high steam, the materials are made stronger in proportion than the materials used for steam of low pressure."

I shall now collect the evidence in regard to the comparative merits of a cast or of a wrought iron boiler.

Mr John Taylor.—"Have you ever seen an explosion of a cast iron boiler?—No, I have not. I have seen the effects at Wells Street; I was upon the ruins immediately after; the effect seemed to be tremendous; there it knocked down the whole building, which was a sugar-house of five or six stories high, and fragments appeared to be thrown in every direction; the boiler itself was shattered into a great number of pieces.

"If that had been a wrought iron boiler, and had burst, it would not have produced the same effect?—I think not."

Mr William Chapman.—"Would you not always recommend a boiler to be made of wrought metal on board steam-boats?—On board steam-boats I would recommend them all to be made either of copper or charcoal iron plates, beat under the hammer and not rolled; the resistance of cylindric boilers will be in the inverse ratio of their diameters."

Mr Philip Taylor.—"The boilers I have generally employed are constructed of malleable iron, commonly known by the name of charcoal iron, rivetted together and secured by strong wrought iron belts. From observing the danger arising from the introduction of flat cast iron ends, I have terminated the ends of the boilers by wrought iron ones, nearly hemispherical; this mode of construction, as far as my experience goes, combines more strength and durability than any other."

Mr Henry Maudeslay.—"What is your opinion as to the comparative safety of cast and wrought metal used in boilers?—I consider that wrought iron is extremely safe, compared to cast iron.

"Then, at all events, it is your opinion, that, in steam-boats, boilers of wrought metal should be used in preference to cast?—No doubt about it.

"Do you think there is any material difference between the use of copper and wrought iron?—No, excepting in the greater degree of corrosion to which iron is liable."

Mr Alexander Galloway.—"Under all the circumstances of the case, I should most decidedly recommend a condensing engine, a condensing engine with a wrought iron boiler; because, when cast iron becomes subject to high expansion and contraction, the constant repetition of these effects in a very great degree impairs the strength of the boiler."

Mr John Braithwaite.—"Would

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you not recommend on board steam-boats, wrought metal boilers to be used in preference to cast?—Certainly; I have made some discoveries myself in the boilers I have put up, which makes them perfectly safe."

Mr John Hall.—"I make boilers in cast iron, and I have proved them by an hydraulic press made for the purpose, and have gone as high as 250 pounds to an inch, and that I considered enough; nothing happened.

Mr Alexander Tilloch.—"I would prefer cast iron, contrary to the opinion of many people, and the reason I would prefer it is the same for which it is preferred in making cannon. It is not possible to get thick plates of wrought iron perfect throughout, and you trust at last to rivets in joining them, but cast iron boilers can be made of any strength you please; instead of having a boiler that will stand sixty, it may be made to stand six hundred, of either wrought or cast iron. Another reason why I would prefer cast iron is, that the sheet iron corrodes much quicker, and destroys by oxydation, so that a boiler may be safe when first set up, and stand its proof, but very soon become unserviceable, or at least comparatively so."

Mr John Steel.—"Will you give your opinion as to the comparative merits of wrought and cast iron?—I cannot conceive as to the safety of the two, that there is any difference whatever, when the steam is used, as it generally is, for high pressure engines to 40 pounds to the inch. If it was required to make the strongest boiler imaginable, I should consider cast iron preferable, because there you can get to an unlimited strength of resistance; wrought iron you can only have of a certain thickness."

Mr William Brunton.—"What injury do you think is likely to arise from the bursting of a high pressure boiler, composed of wrought iron?—I conceive the injury would be more partial, in consequence of the fragments being larger; for I do not suppose that the wrought iron boiler would be divided into so many parts as a cast iron boiler would.

"In a steam-boat, what boiler would you most recommend to be used to insure safety to the persons on board; a wrought iron or a cast iron boiler?—A wrought iron boiler, properly constructed."

Mr Josias Jessop.—"I think that if the boiler were made of malleable metal, such as iron and copper, it would be an additional security.

"What is the ground of your preference to malleable or wrought metal?—It does not burst by an explosion, as brittle metal does, but tears; it would probably rend at the joints.

"You do not mean then to say, that it would be impossible that a malleable boiler would burst, but that it is improbable that it would?—It would burst, but it would not fly in pieces; the rent would create a natural safety valve."

Mr Arthur Woolf, engineer, Cornwall.—"Are your boilers in general made of wrought or cast iron?—Of cast iron wholly; I approve of the cast iron boilers in preference to any mixture of metals.

"Do you consider that the cast iron boiler, upon the common construction, is equally safe with a wrought iron one?—Not upon the common construction that I have seen; some I should have doubted very much; I have seen some that are rather dangerous; my patent consists of one composed of a number of tubes.

"Suppose a cast iron boiler, and a wrought iron boiler of about the same form and capacity, to be exploded by the force of the internal steam, do you think that the mischief likely to be produced by each of those would be equal; taking any form you please, and exploding both, which would do the most mischief?—I do not think the wrought iron boiler would separate into so many pieces as the cast iron boiler.

"Then do you think that the explosion of the wrought iron boiler is attended with as much danger as the cast iron boiler?—In every thing, excepting what depends upon the fragments of the iron itself; I have no hesitation in saying that cast iron boilers are safer than wrought iron boilers."

Mr Andrew Vivian.—"Do you conceive that there is any difference in the liability to explode between the boilers constructed of wrought and of cast iron?—I should conceive that cast iron could be made much stronger than wrought

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iron with less difficulty; I conceive it to be a very difficult thing to make a wrought iron boiler so strong as we can have it cast; we have some of our boilers made two inches thick; and to make a wrought iron boiler equally strong as that, would be very difficult to be accomplished by workmen.

"Supposing the only object to be safety to the lives or limbs of the persons who should be surrounding the engine, would you in that case prefer having the boiler of a high pressure engine of wrought or of cast iron?—I would have cast iron, because it can certainly be made stronger than wrought iron for the same expence."

Mr Thomas Lean.—"Have you any choice, in point of safety only, between a boiler constructed of cast iron or of wrought iron?—Were I to have a boiler where I wished to have the greatest strength, I would certainly have it made of cast iron; I have not one doubt that a cast iron boiler can be made much stronger than it is possible to make a wrought iron one; in fact, the explosions that we have had in Cornwall have all been in wrought iron boilers, but I never had one in cast iron boilers, nor have we had an accident from high pressure steam; all the accidents have been from low pressure steam in Cornwall."

Having thus extracted the substance of the examination, so far as relates to these two leading questions, I shall now beg leave to make a few observations.

The Committee report, that the persons examined "generally agree, though with some exceptions, that those called high pressure engines may be safely used, with the precaution of well constructed boilers, and properly adapted safety valves." Now, I cannot exactly *agree* with the Committee in this general inference. A great majority, I think fully two-thirds, are decidedly against the high pressure engines. It is farther to be observed, that these persons include almost all who have had any observation of, or concern with *steam-boats;* while the advocates of high pressure are almost all persons connected with the application of steam to machinery used in manufactures. They are, indeed, almost exclusively the persons who construct engines for the use of the Cornish miners. When employed for that purpose, there appears to be a great saving, in point of economy, in the use of high pressure engines. Without, however, supposing any bias from this cause, the two cases are different, and different rules may apply to them. It would seem, by the testimony of those concerned in steam-boats, that the low pressure boilers burst almost as often as the high pressure; but, in bursting, they do no injury; the fragments never explode. The only danger is from the scalding of the steam; but this seems never to have been experienced in boats, probably from the covered state of the engine; it occurred only in mines or manufactories, where the workmen were exposed to the steam. It appears to follow, therefore, that his Majesty's subjects may travel in boats using low pressure engines, with perfect safety to life and limb. Moreover, these boats seem, in all common cases, capable of sailing with every degree of rapidity which can be wished for. The steam-boats on the Clyde go, I believe, at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, which is as rapid sailing as any one could desire or choose. There seems no motive, therefore, for encountering the hazard of explosion, which probably can never be entirely prevented in high pressure engines. I am not prepared to say, that the Legislature ought absolutely to prohibit the use of boats with such engines; because I share the feeling of the Committee, that as little restraint as possible ought to be placed on the natural course of human industry. I only conceive, that, unless in very peculiar and special cases, the use of high pressure engines in boats can serve no purpose, and ought to be entirely discouraged. The Committee also appear to me to be departing from their own principle, when they load *all* steam-boats indiscriminately with troublesome and expensive regulations, which seem to be necessary or applicable only in the case of those using high pressure engines. If the bursting of low pressure engines never produces any damage, why require, before every voyage, an examination by an engineer, whose presence it may be difficult and expensive to procure?—why also demand, that the boiler should be made capable of bearing *six*

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times the pressure which it is intended to sustain?

The Committee also report, that "a great majority of opinions lean to boilers of wrought iron or metal, in preference to cast iron;" and they therefore recommend as a regulation, "that all boilers belonging to the engines by which such vessels shall be worked, should be composed of wrought iron or copper." Generally speaking, the same persons who recommend low pressure engines, recommend wrought iron; and those who advise high pressure engines, advise cast iron. We do not exactly know why the Committee has adhered to the former in the one case, and to the latter in the other. The general result seems to be, that cast iron boilers may be made stronger than wrought iron, and consequently less liable to explode; but when they do explode, they occasion more damage. On these grounds, the preference between the two appears somewhat of a dubious point. But, at all events, as the only object in the use of wrought iron is to diminish the injury produced by an explosion, I can see no possible motive for compelling the adoption of it in low pressure engines, which never explode. The hardship of such a regulation would also be very considerable, as it would render useless all the low pressure engines at present composed of cast iron, and oblige the proprietors to incur the expence of a new machine.

Upon the whole, the result of the evidence here collected appears to be, that there is no ground for giving any encouragement to the use of high pressure engines in steam-boats. But, if any proprietors choose to set such on foot, it is very proper that they should be made liable to the regulations proposed by the Committee. To impose, however, the same regulations upon *all* steam-boats, appears to be both unnecessary and vexatious.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON SOME FACTS IN NATURAL HISTORY.

MR EDITOR,

The following observations, though unconnected by any other relation than that of having been made in the same situation, may probably afford an amusement to such of your readers as delight to wander, at this fine season, by the sea side, and to remark the varieties of organized life, or the diversified appearances of the laws of nature, which are there presented. The facts which I have to notice are not, besides, very generally known, and seem, on both these accounts, to be deserving of a place in your useful miscellany.

1. My first observation relates to that species of marine animal which is known to naturalists by the name of *Medusa Capillata*. It is a frequent inhabitant of most of the shores of this island, and may easily be distinguished from the other species of the same animal, by the remarkable transparency of its whole mass; and more particularly by some beautiful spots of bright purple, which are placed near the centre of its disk. I ought, perhaps, to remark, for the sake of some of your readers, that the class of animals, of which that alluded to in the following observation is a species, is commonly known in this country by the name of the *sea-blubber*, and is remarkable for several striking properties, which characterize some of its species, such as that of occasioning a feeling of irritation in the skin when touched, and of being phosphorescent in the dark. To a common observer, all the varieties of this animal appear to be merely masses of a transparent jelly, scarcely worthy of being ranked among the class of animals, and apparently driven, without the power of directing their course, by the varying direction of the winds or the waves. If, however, on a fine day, when the sea is calm, and when one of the species to which I now allude is swimming near the shore, an attentive eye be kept upon its movements, within a yard or two of the place of the animal, the following very beautiful and amusing appearance will be observed! As the animal moves forward, it is constantly employed in forming its disk into a greater or less degree of convexity, while at every such change in the form of its mass, a fringe of most beautiful and apparently silky filaments, all around the circumference of the disk, is protruded into the water, and again withdrawn into the body of the animal, as it resumes its ordinary and more flattened appearance. These filaments proceed from the circumference of a circular space, which is placed near the centre of the animal, and may be distinctly seen

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passing from thence, in the form of rays, to the extremity of the disk. The progress of this animal is therefore performed, as the reader will understand from the foregoing remarks, by a species of spinning; and the kind of organisation by which this is effected, has always appeared to myself to be one of the most pleasing instances of the wisdom of nature with which I am acquainted, and adapted most happily to illustrate the remark, that some of the finest specimens of what is exquisite in structure, may be discovered in animals of the very lowest order.

I am not certain whether any other of the species of this class possess the same organ to which I have now alluded. Indeed, I think we have reason to believe, that most of the species possess a power of locomotion, though not apparently of so fine a construction, yet certainly capable of accelerating their progress to a much greater degree. I remember, indeed, to have been once remarkably struck with this fact, while bathing with a companion in one of those arms of the sea which intersect the western shores of Argyllshire. We had been in use, during the greater part of the summer, to bathe in the same spot. One day, however, we were astonished on advancing farther into the water, to perceive myriads of the Medusa in rapid progress from the head of the loch, apparently towards the open sea. They continued to float by us in countless numbers, during the whole of the time we continued in the water; and though I was aware of the effect which some of the species are said to produce upon the skin when handled, we yet ventured, in youthful wantonness, and, I dare say, to the no small annoyance of the "emigrants," to pelt one another with them for a very considerable time, without afterwards experiencing any disagreeable sensations. Next day, no appearance of the Medusa could be seen; and I inferred at the time, that the animal was accustomed, at certain seasons, to make long and rapid migrations, probably from the quiet and shelter of the inland bays, towards the open sea. Those who are acquainted with the late voyage of Humboldt across the Atlantic, will indeed recollect, that one part of that vast sea is completely covered by many species of this animal, for the existence of which, in that situation, the naturalist was very much puzzled to account. A collection of observations like the foregoing, would probably enable us to solve this difficulty.

I have only farther to remark on this article, that, as the substance of the Medusa is gelatinous, and as this matter is soluble in common water, any person may procure the filaments I before noticed, by placing one of the animals possessing them in a bason of river water during forty-eight hours. At the end of that time, the substance of the animal will be found to have become entirely dissolved, and the filaments will be obtained floating on the surface.

2. My next observation relates to a remarkable appearance produced by the refraction of the rays of light. If an observer is seated on a ledge of rock which has a gentle declivity towards the sea, and if the tide is in such a state that the wave, after having advanced upon the rock, rests precisely at its margin when the water is at its utmost retreat, the following amusing appearance will be remarked. As the wave alternately advances and retires, that part of the rock which is subject to the inundation, will appear to be alternately lifted and depressed with something resembling "a living motion." The solid stone, in short, will appear as if transformed into something either endued with spontaneous activity, or at least so light and moveable in its texture, as to be agitated with the same facility, and very much in the same way as the floating *fuci* which may happen to be attached to it.

There are few of your readers, I dare say, of those at least who shall actually observe the appearance, who will find any difficulty in assigning the cause of it. Every person knows, that if a shilling be put into a bason, so as to be covered from the view of an observer by its margin, and if water be then poured into the bason, the piece of money is seen gradually to rise in the water, so as to become completely visible to the eye of the spectator. It is evidently in precisely the same way that the alternate appearance of elevation and depression in the margin of the rock is produced. When the advancing wave gradually makes its way up the sloping surface, that part of the stone

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which is covered by the water, of course, appears to be affected with a gradual elevation; as the wave retires, the rock necessarily sinks to its proper level; and if the ebb of the wave does not go beyond the boundary of the rock, the appearance of motion is of course uninterrupted; and when it has once attracted the notice of the observer, will be found to present a phenomenon which it is both amusing and instructive to contemplate.

3. I have now to direct the attention of your readers to some particulars respecting the production and diffusion of fogs. It has been stated as being now decisively proved, that fogs are not to be regarded merely as vapour suspended in the air by the simple circumstance of the inferior specific gravity of their particles, but as moisture so combined with electricity, as to assume that inferior gravity by which its suspension is affected; and, as a proof of this, it is said, that, on one occasion, a fog having been carried very near a tree, the electricity of the fog was attracted by the tree, and the moisture thus deprived of its electricity was so immediately converted into snow, as actually to tear up, by its overwhelming impulse, the roots of the tree upon whose branches it had rested. Now, although the fact, when thus stated, certainly possesses no slight resemblance to some of those which the renowned Munchausen observed in the course of his journeyings, I have yet long been convinced that the theory which it supposes is perfectly correct. Indeed, considering how far our knowledge of the properties of electricity has been extended, and how certainly we are now informed of its universal diffusion, it is not a little astonishing that philosophers should persist, with such obstinacy, in excluding it from their explanations of those ordinary appearances, with which it cannot be doubted that it has the most intimate connection. Who, for instance, can doubt that snow, and rain, and dew, in all their varieties, are not merely dependent, according to the prevailing theory, upon the meeting and intermixture of currents of air of different temperatures,—but, far more, upon changes taking place in that active fluid, which seems to pervade and communicate their most important properties to every thing upon and around this globe. That the production of mist is chiefly dependent upon the agency of this fluid, I am satisfied, among other considerations, from a fact which I have frequently noticed upon the sandy shores of the Firth of Forth. When the air is in that state which is productive of mist, that is, when an east or north-east wind has been blowing for some time, I have frequently remarked, that the water which was left upon the sands of the beach, and in every basin and pool which was near the shore, is carried off by evaporation, with a celerity and power which gives to the whole coast the appearance of a vast smoking furnace. And that this is not merely the effect of the temperature of the air at the time, must be evident from this consideration, that, on many of our most splendid and sultry days, when the wind happens to blow from any of the south or west points, no trace of evaporation can be perceived, and the atmosphere is indeed remarkable for a very peculiar degree of transparency.

An east wind, in this climate, therefore, I apprehend, is to be considered as connected with important changes in the electrical state of the atmosphere, as might indeed have been long ago suspected from the known increase of pressure in this fluid when the wind blows from any of the eastern points. These electrical changes, which probably take place at the same time in the atmosphere and in the earth, appear to be peculiarly favourable to the elevation and suspension of vapour; and hence it happens, that, when the wind blows from the east, we are immediately plunged in a cloud of haze or fog, while those genial breezes, which have traversed the Atlantic, and which might have been expected to come to us with wings profusely bedewed with the moisture of their way, pour only around us that beautiful transparency, through which all the hues of nature are seen to advantage.

4. I have one further remark to make. It often happens, in very calm weather, that the sea has the appearance of being very beautifully varied, from portions of its surface being gently agitated, while other portions are in a state of perfect repose; and these alternations are commonly so gracefully disposed, as rather to resemble the effect of some moving body

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which had passed in a winding direction over its surface, than of any cause existing in Nature itself. Nothing is more common, indeed, than to hear this appearance ascribed to a variety of causes,—to the oily matter deposited by vessels which had sailed in the direction of the more placid portions,—to something in the bottom of the sea which rendered the surface more easily agitated in some parts than in others,—to the influence of clouds exerting a composing energy on those tracts of water which lie beneath them,—or to the effect of promontories and other partial irregularities in interrupting the natural direction of the wind. The simple account, however, of these appearances seems to be, that, besides those greater and more extensive agitations to which the atmosphere around us is constantly liable, its lowest stratum is also occasionally subject, especially where it is in contact with the surface of the sea, to a tremulous agitation of a far less perceptible character; which seems to originate in causes somewhat different from that by which wind is produced; and the existence of which could only be discovered by its effect upon a surface so easily agitated as that which a very placid sea presents. It is to this slight tremulous agitation in the lower surface of the air, a motion, I may remark, which is probably not very easily propagated, which seems, as I have already said, to depend upon causes of a peculiar nature, and not necessarily to be carried forward like wind, in a continued stream, that I am disposed to attribute those variations of the surface by which even the calmest sea is commonly marked; and I am persuaded, that any person who will take the trouble of remarking the manner in which these agitated and calmer portions of the water are gradually varied and intermingled with each other, will readily acquiesce in this solution of the phenomenon.

Whatever, Sir, may be the truth of these explanations, I apprehend, however, that your miscellany can seldom be better employed than in giving currency to such views of the appearances of Nature as may lead your readers to a more intelligent observation of the beauteous order which prevails around us, and, with assurances of my being always ready to assist you in the attainment of this object, so far as my ability may extend, I am, Mr Editor, yours very respectfully,

P.

ACCOUNT OF A REMARKABLE AUDIENCE OF A POLISH AMBASSADOR AT THE COURT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH IN 1597.

The arrival in 1597 of an ambassador from Sigismund the Third, King of Poland, at the Court of Elizabeth, is mentioned by all the historians of her reign. This ambassador, whose name was Paul Dzialenski, was sent to complain of some interruption of the Polish commerce by the English cruizers; a measure to which, according to Carte,* his master was instigated by certain Jesuits at his Court in the interest of the King of Spain. Elizabeth granted him a public audience, at which he addressed her in a harangue of uncommon boldness and vehemence, to which she immediately made a suitable reply in Latin, in which tongue the Pole had spoken. The substance of both their speeches is given in Camden's *Annals*, and in Carte's *History*; but we have procured an extract from the Burghley *Manuscripts*, preserved in the British Museum, of a letter from Sir Robert Cecil to the Earl of Essex, which, as it contains much more minute details of the circumstances attending this remarkable audience than are to be found in these histories, cannot fail, we should think, to prove interesting to our readers.

The letter is not a little curious in several respects. Elizabeth's partiality for handsome men is well known to all who are acquainted with her history and character; and it appears from this letter, that she was induced to grant the Polish ambassador a public and splendid audience, from the very favourable accounts she had received of the beauty and elegance of his person and manners. She seems to have been prepared to hear an address from him, couched in those romantic terms of love and admiration in which she was sometimes accosted by her courtiers; who, when they wished to ingratiate themselves, always contrived to mingle

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* Carte's *History of England*, Vol. III. p. 665.

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the praises of the woman with the adulation of the Queen; and her disappointment and indignation were therefore proportionally great, when she was so roughly attacked by a young and handsome foreigner. The courtly writer of the letter, however, swears, that she did not lose her dignity in administering the deserved reprimand to the Pole; and he takes care to enjoin Essex to praise her when he should write to court, for the temper and eloquence she displayed on the occasion. It is evident enough that such praises from her favourite were expected, and would be grateful to her.

—"There arriued three daies since in the cittie an Ambass^r out of Poland, a gentleman of excellent fashion, witte, discourse, language, and parson; the Queene was possessed by some of our new counsellors, that are as cunning in intelligence, as in decyphering, that his negociation tendeth to a proposition of peace. Her Matie in respect that his father the Duke of Finland had so much honored her, besydes the lyking she had of this gentleman's comnelinessand qualities, brought to her by reporte, did resolue to receaue him publickly, in the Chamber of Presence, where most of the Erles and Noblemen about the Court attended, and made it a great day. He was brought in, attired in a long robe of black velucti, well jeweld and buttond, and cam to kisse her Ma^ts hands where she stood vnder the state, from whence he straight retired, tene yards of, and then beganne his oration aloude in Latin, with such a gallant countenance, as in my lyfe I neuer behelde. The effect of it was this, that "the King hath sent him to put her Matie in minde of the auncient confederacies betweene the Kings of Poland and England, that neuer a monarche in Europe did willinglie neglect their friendship, that he had euer friendlie receaued her marchants and subiects of all qualilie, that she had suffered his to be spoiled, without restitution; not for lacke of knowledge of the violences, but out of meere iniustice, not caring to minister remedie, notwithstanding many particular petitions and letters receaued; and to confirme her disposition to avowe these courses, (violating both the law of nature and nations,) because ther were quarels between her and the King of Spaine, she therfor tooke upon her, by mandat, to prohibite him and his countries, assuming therby to her self a superioritie (not tollerable) ouer other princes, nor he determined to endure, but rather wished her to knowe, that yf there were no more than the auncient amitie between Spaine and him, it were no reason to looke that his subiects should be impedited, much lesse now, when a strickt obligation of bloud had so conioyned him with the illustrious house of Austria:" concluding, that if her Matie would not reforme it, he would.

"To this I sweare by the liuing God, that her Matie made one of the best aunswers, *ex tempore*, in Latin, that euer I heard, being much mooued to be so challenged in publick, especially so much against her expectation. The wordes of her beginning were these: "Suerlie, I can hardlie beleeue, that yf the King himself were present, he would haue used such a language, for yf he should, I must haue thought, that his being a king not of many yeares, and that *(non de jure sanguinis, sed jure electionis imò novitèr electus)* may happilie leaue him vninformed of that course, wch his fauther and auncestors haue taken with us, and wch peraduenture shal be obserued by those that shall liue to come after him; and as for you, (saied she to the Ambass^r,) although I perceaue you haue redde many bookes, to fortifie your arguments in this case, yet am I apt to beleeue, that you haue not lighted upon the chapter, that prescribeth the forme to be used between kings and princes; but were it not for the place you hold, to haue so publickly an imputation thrown upon our justice, wch as yet neuer failed, wee would aunswer this audacitie of yours in an other style; and for the particulars of y^r negotiations, wee will appoint some of our counsell to conferre with you, to see upon what ground this clamer of yours hath his fundation, who haue showed y^rself rather an heralde than an ambassador." I assure your L^P, though I am not apt to wonder, I must confesse before the liuing Lord, that I neuer heard her (when I know her spirits were in passion) speake with better moderation in my lyfe.

"You will think it strange that I am thus idle, as to use an other be-

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dies hand: I assure you, I haue hurt my thumme at this hower, and because the Queene tould me, she was sorrye you heard not his Latin and hers, I promised her to make you partaker of as much as I could remember, being as I knew the worst you would expect from her, and yet the best could come from any other; yf therefore this my lettre finde you, and that you write backe, I pray you take notice that you were pleased to heare of her wise and eloquent answer."—

Burghley Papers, 1587.
Mus. Brit. Bibl. Lansdown.
Vol. 85.

ON THE PROPER USE OF TERMS IN WRITING.

MR EDITOR,

The use of appropriate terms to convey information with effect, or to describe objects with accuracy, is one of the first beauties in written composition; and I trust I shall have your indulgence, and that of the readers of the Edinburgh Magazine, while I point out one or two incongruities which are to be met with in the works of many respectable authors.

No expression in descriptive writing is more frequent, than that such or such a lake is a "beautiful *sheet* of water;"—and yet no term is more indefinite or worse understood than this. To a stranger to the object described, it may imply an extent of water fifty miles in diameter; while perhaps to another, it does not suggest a space larger than a mill-pond. It is evident that, unless the author who uses a term so undefined, specifies the actual length and breadth of the water he describes, no person can form the slightest idea of the dimensions of this said *sheet* of water. As an improvement on the expression, I take the liberty to suggest a plan by which such indefinite description may be avoided, without changing the word now in general use. I would term all the largest lakes or expanses of water, say, for instance, not less than fifty miles in length and ten in breadth, a *sheet* of water;—those of less dimensions, or twenty-five miles in length and five in breadth, a *half sheet*;---those of smaller size a *quarter sheet*;---and lakes still smaller than these may be distinguished by the terms *octavo pages of water, duodecimo pages*, &c.---till the most insignificant pond should have a distinctive name that should represent its relative size to the mind with sufficient accuracy. To the public the introduction of this plan would be of essential service; and if it were once generally adopted, no one could be at a loss to conceive the meaning of another. Few persons who read books are ignorant of the comparative sizes into which paper is folded; and if the appointed standard were to be *fool's-cap*, many respectable authors would find themselves at home.

Another expression of unrestricted meaning frequently met with in books, is "an *arm of the sea*." The writers who first used this term had certainly their reasons for doing so. Perhaps they metaphorically supposed the sea an animal; but if they took the idea from the human species, and gave the name of *arm* to places relatively situated in the ocean, there is an incongruity in the expression which is really ludicrous; for no analogy can reconcile either an *arm* or the *bottom* of the sea to the corresponding parts in the "human form divine." Sometimes we find the phrase, *arm of the sea*, put for a navigable inlet 100 miles in length:---at other times a creek not extending so many yards is so denominated. If the sea is to be a metaphorical monster, (and so it must be, for it has more than a hundred *arms* in Scotland alone,) why do not geographers lay down the position of its *legs* as well as its *arms*? or, if it has no *legs*, may it not have *fins* and a *tail*?

A *ridge* or *chain* of mountains *running* across, or *traversing* an island or a continent, is another phrase in very common use among our geographical writers; whereas the fact is, that the said ridges, luckily for the stability of the earth's surface, continue, and have continued since the creation, in their accustomed places. Knowing of no good reason, either moral, political, or orthographical, for using these misapplied metaphorical terms, may I beg to suggest, that authors ought to employ words which, in their meaning, include the immoveability of these fixtures of nature. I know not, Sir, what you may think on this subject; but it is certainly a serious thing to unsettle all our notions of

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gravity, by making mountains *rise* or *ascend* in majesty, and even *pierce* the very clouds which dim them to our sight.

In the foregoing remarks I refer only to works which treat of matters of fact,---not to works of fiction. I have no desire to curb the genius of our poets, by taking one word out of their vocabulary. Let the *roaring* of the sea in a tempest, or the soft *murmur* of its almost quiescent waves in a calm, be granted to those who would personify a poker, or apostrophize a coffee-pot. And rivers may *glide*, *rush*, and *hasten* with fearful velocity,---*bend*, *twist*, and *stretch*;---or, if they please, *steal* gently along, and *kiss* the wild-flowers which overhang their banks, in peace, and without molestation from me;—provided it be always understood, that these phrases are merely figures or fictions of speech, and convey nothing which can disturb our belief of the earth's stability, or shake our faith in the received ideas which divide animated from inanimate matter.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

PETER PANGLOSS, LL. D.
F. R. & ASS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE POOR-LAWS.

In the union of integrity and wisdom consists the perfection of government, and from the want of some one of these two essential requisites to govern, every species of mal-administration necessarily flows. In the passing of laws which are directed to the general good of the community at large, and which are wholly unconnected with the personal interests of individuals, it is impossible that legislators can have had any sinister purpose in view. In this branch of legislation, therefore, their errors must proceed, not from a want of integrity, but from a want of wisdom,—from a want of those just and comprehensive views of the nature of society, without which no legislator can ever be qualified to regulate its complex concerns. In all those laws, for example, which have been passed for the encouragement of commerce, there is no reason to believe that their authors had any other object in view than what they professed. They really designed to promote trade, and the artificial system by which they encumbered it, was the result, not of any ill intention, but of ignorance. Their plans not harmonizing with the great and original laws of society, thwarted its progress, and counteracted the first principles of social improvement.—Such, however, was unquestionably far from their intention. In the case also of the English system of poor-laws, we cannot doubt that the intentions of the legislators were exceedingly laudable. Their object was to relieve the poor at the expence of the rich,—to take from those who were amply provided with all the superfluities of life what was necessary for the support of the destitute. The intention was here benevolent in the extreme. But the evils which have flowed from this erring benevolence have taught us the necessity of not rashly giving way to appearances, but of rigidly canvassing the merits of all those projects of benevolence, however specious an aspect they may assume, and of examining not merely whether the object in view be a good one, but whether the means proposed afford any chance of accomplishing it. According to these principles, we propose shortly to examine the nature and policy of the English system of poor-laws.

As it is by the industry of the labouring classes that the community at large are provided with food, clothing, and lodging, it seems at first view both reasonable and humane, that when this useful class fall into poverty and want, the richer classes, to whose comfort they so largely administer, should contribute to their relief; and there is no question, that if, in any season of general distress, the poor could be relieved by the simple process of assessing the rich, both humanity and sound policy would justify the most effectual measures for this purpose. But experience too fatally proves, that the system of general assessments on the rich for the relief of the poor, produces effects precisely the reverse of those intended;—that, so far from relieving their distress, or in any respect improving their condition, it plunges them into the lowest depths of vice and misery,—degrading their moral habits,—eradicating from their minds every feeling of honest independence,—reconciling

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them to idleness and beggary,—and finally, increasing the distress which it is intended to relieve. Those various evils have been sometimes ascribed to the faulty administration of the system, and many cases of gross corruption and mismanagement have no doubt been pointed out. But a system which professes benevolence, and which is thus fruitful in all the worst of evils, must be wrong, not merely in detail, but in principle. It must have some inherent quality of mischief, by which so much intended good is transmuted into so much practical evil. The two great calamities to which the labourer is chiefly exposed, are a want of subsistence or a want of employment.

A want of food may either arise from a deficiency in the usual supply, or the same effect may be produced by an over abundant population. In either case, a smaller supply has to be divided among a larger number of consumers, and in these circumstances, it is evident that a smaller share must fall to the lot of each. The deficient supply is divided among the consumers, in smaller portions by means of a higher price; the price rising in consequence of the deficiency, until the labourer is disabled from purchasing the same quantity as before. The evil falls upon the rich in the form of a tax; they use the same quantity of subsistence as before; but they purchase it at a higher price. The wages of the labourer not being sufficient for this, he is put upon short allowance: and it is by his savings that the deficient supply is made to last out the year. In such cases, the law has generally interfered to regulate wages, or to extort money from the rich in order to divide it among the poor, the principle in either case being the same, namely, the making a general distribution of money among the labourers, to enable them to consume the same quantity of a scarcer commodity. We shall suppose the annual consumption of a country to amount to 100 millions of quarters of wheat. In consequence of a bad harvest, the supply falls short by 10 millions. It is clear, therefore, that, by some means or other, the deficient supply of 90 millions, in the same manner as formerly the more abundant supply of 100 millions, must be made to last the same number of consumers the same length of time. It is equally evident that, for this purpose, a certain proportion of the community must consume less, and they are reduced to this diminished consumption by the rise of price. But the system which we are considering makes a general distribution of money among the labourers, that they may be enabled to procure the same quantity of provisions as before;—or, in other words, that they may be enabled to consume 100 millions when the whole produce only amounts to 90 millions. It is evident, therefore, that for the evil of scarcity, a general distribution of money affords no relief whatever.

The other evil to which the labourer is exposed, namely, a general scarcity of work, can only be adequately relieved by increasing the funds of productive industry. The employment of the poor in work-houses, which is the remedy provided by the law, creates no new fund for the maintenance of labour. It merely diverts a portion of the old stock into a different channel. Even if there were no such establishments, the materials which are there worked up, would set industry in motion under the more careful inspection of the private manufacturer; and the effect of such projects is not to increase the funds of industry, but to change their management,—to take them from those who have an interest in faithfully administering them, and to place them under less careful overseers, where they may be abused or lost. All such projects, therefore, for the relief of the labouring classes, are of the most mischievous operation. They originate in the most mistaken and partial views, and manifest an ignorance of those great and general laws on which the structure of society is framed, and to which all subordinate regulations ought to be accommodated.

But although the evil of this system be now generally admitted, it has been acted upon so universally, and to such an extent in England, that it has become a question of serious difficulty in what manner all its various evils can now be checked. So widely has it spread the evil of mendicity,—so thoroughly has it corrupted the moral feeling of the great mass of the community,—and so general, of late years, has been the stagnation of trade, and the want of employment, among the

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labouring classes, that a vast train of helpless dependents are now attached to it, who cannot be suddenly cast off to misery and want. And in this indeed consists one great evil of every erroneous and artificial scheme of policy, that, in the course of time, it establishes itself among the fixed and settled arrangements of society, so that, however sensible we may be of its mischiefs, we cannot suddenly remove it without producing the most extensive disorder and mischief. This naturally creates hesitation among those who, however they may feel the evil, are desirous to accomplish the proposed reformation at the least possible expence of present misery. In the case of the English poor-laws, however, the malady is not stationary. It is making continual progress,—it is gradually undermining the sound and healthy constitution of society, and it requires, therefore, to be checked by seasonable and vigorous remedies.

The system established in England, of a compulsory provision for the relief of the poor, originated in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and the various statutes which were passed on this important subject, were consolidated into one general law, by the 43d of her reign. This statute enacts, that "the churchwardens and overseers" shall take order from time to time (with the consent of two or more justices) for setting to work the children of all such whose parents shall not be thought able to keep and maintain their children; and also for setting to work all such persons, married or unmarried, having no means to maintain them, and use no ordinary or daily trade of life to get their living by; and also to raise by taxation, &c. "a convenient stock of flax, &c. to set the poor on work;" and also competent sums of money for and towards the necessary relief of the lame, impotent, old, blind, and such other among them, being poor and not able to work.

By this law the churchwardens are invested with the important power of taxing the people for the support of the poor, or for setting to work poor children, or such as had no employment. All the various details of the system,—the mode of making the assessment,—the species of property to which it was to be extended, were either left entirely to their discretion, or no precise rule was prescribed for their conduct; nor was any adequate security provided by the law for the upright administration of the funds which they were empowered to raise. The statute is framed in vague and general terms. The object which it proposes is indeed plain and obvious, as well as the vast powers which it creates; but it contains no adequate provision for regulating the exercise of these powers; it trusts the whole practical detail of the measure to the discretion of individuals. In the administration of this system of compulsory charity, disputes have in consequence been continually arising respecting the legality of the proceedings of the churchwardens, and respecting another important point, namely, the species of property which is legally rateable to the parish contributions. This has been a most fertile subject of legal wrangling, insomuch, that the money expended on law-suits amounted in 1815 to L. 285,000; and amid the series of contradictory decisions and statutes by which the subject is perplexed, there is still ample scope for new doubts and interminable disputes.

It is generally believed, that the intention of the legislature was to subject every species of property to contribution. But in practice, so many difficulties have been experienced in enforcing this law against personal property, that the burden falls almost exclusively on lands and houses, and it has been gradually encroaching upon the income derived from this source, until it threatens in some cases its total extinction. At the time when the 43d Elizabeth was passed, it might have been easily foreseen, that a system of compulsory provision for the relief of the poor, established and acted upon throughout the kingdom, would necessarily tend to relax the principle of private exertion,—that the stimulus to industry, frugality, and foresight, being once withdrawn, misery would increase,—that new claimants thus continually arising, the administrators of those funds would be gradually overborne by the importunate solicitations of beggary, —that, in place of any nice discrimination between the cases of different claimants, the easy process would be adopted of confounding them all un-

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der some general rule,—and that, in this way, the foundation was laid for a system of profuse and indiscriminate charity, which, by gradually corrupting the habits of the labouring classes, would necessarily multiply its objects, —that new and increased contributions would be required, and that, from this fertile fountain of evil, new streams of corruption would thus continually issue, to vitiate and to destroy the moral feelings of the people. It is evident, that the system contains within itself a principle of continual increase, and unless it meets with some decided check, it may proceed in absorbing the capital of the country to an indefinite extent. These evils are pointed out with great force and effect by the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to report upon this important subject. "By diminishing the natural impulse (it is observed) by which men are instigated to industry and good conduct, by superseding the necessity of providing, in the season of health and vigour, for the wants of sickness and old age, and by making poverty and misery the conditions on which relief is to be obtained, your Committee cannot but fear, from a reference to the increased numbers of the poor, and increased and increasing amount of the sums raised for their relief, that this system is perpetually encouraging and increasing the amount of misery it was designed to alleviate, creating, at the same time, an unlimited demand on funds which it cannot augment; and as every system of relief founded on compulsory enactments must be divested of the character of benevolence, so it is without its beneficial effects; as it proceeds from no impulse of charity, it creates no feelings of gratitude, and not unfrequently engenders dispositions and habits calculated to separate rather than unite the interests of the higher and lower orders of the community."

The practical evils flowing from this system very soon began to be very seriously felt; and we find King William, in the year 1699, expressing, in a speech from the throne, his regret that the increase of the poor had become so great a burden to the kingdom; and that their loose and idle life had contributed, in some measure, to the depravity of manners which was complained of. In the same strain Bishop Burnet touches the very root of the mischief, in the admirable remarks with which he concludes his history: "It may be thought (he observes) a strange motion from a bishop, that the act for charging every parish to maintain their own poor were well reviewed, if not taken away, *this seems to encourage idle and lazy people in their sloth, when they know they must be maintained.*"

The evil, however, was then only in its infancy. It has now attained to greater maturity, and it seems to be still progressive. We have no account of the annual sums collected for the maintenance of the poor previous to the year 1776. In that year the sum collected was L. 1,720,361, of which L. 1,556,804 was expended on the poor. On an average of the years 1783, 1784, and 1785, the sum raised was L. 2,167,749, of which L. 2,004,238 was employed in the same manner. In 1803, the sum raised had increased to L. 5,348,205, of which L. 4,267,965 was expended on the poor; and in 1815, the sum of L. 7,068,999 was raised, and there was expended on the poor L. 5,072,028. Beyond this period, no returns have been made. But it is observed in the report of the Committee, that these sums have been since largely increased. "Independent (it is observed) of the pressure of any temporary or accidental circumstances, and making every allowance for an increased population, the rise in the price of provisions and other necessaries of life, and a misapplication of part of these funds, it is apparent that both the number of paupers, and the amount of money levied by assessment, are progressively increasing; while the situation of the poor appears not to have been in a corresponding degree improved; and the Committee is of opinion, that whilst the existing poor-laws, and the system under which they are administered, remain unchanged, there does not exist any power of arresting the progress of this increase, till it shall no longer be found possible to augment the sums raised by assessment."

For this alarming and growing evil many remedies or palliatives have been suggested. It has been sometimes proposed, by the institution of schools, and by the general diffusion

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of instruction, so to reform the habits and feelings of the labouring classes, as to render them averse to receive parish relief, and in this manner, by the mild operation of an improved system of manners, to free society from the disgrace of systematic beggary. In the same spirit banks have been instituted, in order to afford the labourer a safe deposit for such savings as he may be disposed to accumulate into a provision for sickness or for age. But without at all depreciating the utility of public instruction, and without inquiring into the policy of the many other contrivances which have been established for the benefit of the poor, it may be remarked, that these expedients touch not the source of the evil. They leave the grand principle of corruption, namely, the establishment of a compulsory provision for the poor, in full vigour; and while this standing source of moral depravation exists, it will counteract the operation of the best laid plans for the improvement of the labourer. Experience proves, that the human mind requires the continual stimulus of necessity to preserve its healthful and vigorous tone. Man can only be trained to habits of labour, energy, and foresight, by the fear of want; and let this great spring of human action be but once relaxed, and he degenerates into all the degrading vices of idleness and mendicity. In vain with one hand you attempt to lead him to morality and happiness, while, with the other, you are scattering far and wide the seeds of debasement and misery. The system of profuse and indiscriminate charity must be restricted. Beggary must be deprived of this its main stay, and then we may expect all the manly virtues of fortitude, energy, foresight, and industry, to flourish in their own congenial soil of hardy independence.

It is the opinion of many eminent writers on this question, that, by the modern corruptions which have been introduced into the administration of the poor-laws, the 43d of Queen Elizabeth has been extended far beyond its original intention, and that this act had no relation whatever to the able-bodied labourer who was in employment; but merely contemplated the relief of those who were sick or infirm, or who, from some temporary accident, were for the present unemployed. In later times, however, relief has been extended to all classes of labourers, and it has been administered in order generally to add to the earnings of the labourer, when the provisions were scarce and dear, or when the wages of labour were low. Now, what is this but endeavouring forcibly to raise the rate of wages, or to fix a maximum on the price of provisions? When provisions are scarce, or, in other words, when a smaller supply has to be divided among the same number of consumers, it is evident, that a smaller portion must fall to the share of each individual. This smaller portion the able-bodied labourer will be enabled to purchase by means of his wages, and if, by general and profuse donations of money, he is placed in a condition to purchase more, it is clear that he will be benefited at the expence of some other order of the community; for it is certain, that when there is a general deficiency in the supply of provisions, the want must fall somewhere, and that donations of money, though they may alter the distribution, can never affect the quantity of a deficient supply. In the year 1795, the system was begun in several counties, of regulating the rate of wages, and a table was published for the direction of magistrates and overseers, in which the wages necessary for the subsistence of the labourer were computed according to the price of bread, and when they fell below the computed standard, they were made up to it by a parish contribution. Wages were, in short, to rise in proportion to the price of provisions, which was in effect saying, that the mass of the community should consume the same quantity of provisions when the supply was deficient, as when it was abundant. Under this system Mr Malthus mentions, that he has known labourers, whose earnings amounted to 11s. per week, receive 14s. from the parish. "Such instances," he observes, "could not possibly have been universal, without raising the price of wheat very much higher than it was during any part of the dearth. But similar instances were by no means unfrequent, and the system itself of measuring the relief given by the price of grain was universal." The consequences are such as might have been expected. The exactions for the poor have rapidly increased, while it does not ap-

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pear, that, by all these enormous contributions for their relief, their condition has been in any degree improved.

This view of the subject, then, suggests an important and seemingly practicable reformation in the present administration of the poor-laws. If the act of Queen Elizabeth were strictly confined to its only proper objects, namely, to such as are disabled by age, sickness, or bodily infirmity, a large class of paupers would be withdrawn from the operation of this system, and the expence would be proportionally retrenched. It is not meant, however, that any reformation of this nature should be attempted suddenly, or without due warning, more especially in the present circumstances of the country. But when trade and the demand for labour are somewhat revived, there could be no possible hardship in leaving the able-bodied labourer, in the full vigour of health and strength, to depend for subsistence on his own industry; and in warning him that he had no reason to expect relief on any future occasion, unless in the case of sickness or infirmity, from any system of public charity.

With respect to another class of objects comprehended in the act of Queen Elizabeth, namely, the children of the poor, and those who have no employment, and for this purpose to procure a convenient stock of flax, hemp, wool, &c., it seems obvious, as has been already stated, that the overseers cannot procure those materials on which to set the poor to work, without in so far encroaching on the general funds of productive industry, of which they form a part, and that the effect of these contrivances, therefore, is only to divert a portion of the capital of the community into a channel, in which it will be less beneficially employed than when it is allowed to remain under the management of the private manufacturer. These views are explained in the late Report of the Select Committee on this subject with great force and clearness. "An increased demand for labour (it is observed) is the only means by which the wages of labour can ever be raised; and there is nothing which can increase the demand, but the increase of the wealth by which labour is supported; if, therefore, the compulsory application of any part of this wealth tends (as it always must tend) to employ the portion it distributes less profitably than it would have been, if left to the interested superintendence of its owners, it cannot fail, by thus diminishing the funds which would otherwise have been applicable to the maintenance of labour, to place the whole body of labourers in a worse situation than that in which they would otherwise have been placed."

The Committee afterwards add the following judicious observations:—"Under these circumstances, if the demand for labour suddenly decreases, the provisions of the poor law alone are looked to, to supply the place of all those circumstances which result only from vigilance and caution; the powers of law, whilst they profess to compel both labour and wages to be provided, under these circumstances, in reality effect nothing but a more wasteful application of the diminished capital than would otherwise take place; they tend thereby materially to reduce the real wages of free labour, and thus essentially to injure the labouring classes. In this situation of things, not only the labourers, who have hitherto maintained themselves, are reduced, by the perversion of the funds of their employers, to seek assistance from the rate, but the smaller capitalists themselves are gradually reduced, by the burden of the assessments, to take refuge in the same resource. The effect of these compulsory distributions is to pull down what is above, not to raise what is low; and they depress high and low together, beneath the level of what was originally lowest."

The Committee then proceed to point out the following method for freeing the system from this unnecessary burden:—"If these views of the effect of undertaking to provide employment for all who want it are founded in truth, there results from them an obvious necessity of abandoning gradually the impossible condition, that all who require it shall be provided with work, which, whether or not it be the real object of the statute, has by many been held to be so. On this head, your Committee submit, that, if the provision which they have pointed out be made for children

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whose parents cannot maintain them, and the provision also for such as are of the class of poor and impotent be continued, the labouring classes will continue to be relieved from the heaviest part of their necessities. But if any portion of the general and indiscriminate relief which is now given, must of necessity be withheld, your Committee think, it can be withheld from none by whom the privation could so well be borne, as by those who are in the full vigour of health and strength; it may therefore be worthy of consideration, whether, if, under favourable circumstances of the country, the demand for labour should again be materially enlarged, it might not be enacted, that no person should be provided with work by the parish, other than those who are already so provided, and who might be permitted to continue until they could provide for themselves; but if the change by this provision might be thought too rapid, limitations might still be provided, the effect of which would render it more gradual, as by enacting, that none shall be provided with employment who are between the ages of 18 and 30; and then, after a certain lapse of time, that none between 16 and 35, 40, and so on, until the object shall be gradually effected."

Such seem to be the only practicable expedients for circumscribing the operation of the poor-laws within their original limits; for, however other and milder plans may aid the effect of this radical reformation, it is certain that the poor will never be trained to habits of independence, until those profuse and indiscriminate donations which they are taught to depend on, be retrenched. No man who can live in idleness will ever practise industry, and, if the poor are taught to look to a certain provision, independent of their own exertions, we may be assured that all plans for their improvement will be for ever vain.

Among other projects for the improvement and happiness of the labouring classes, we may here notice the schemes of Mr Owen, which have of late attracted a considerable share of attention. Unlike all other reformers, Mr Owen proposes at once to banish vice and misery entirely out of the world. He is to place the labouring classes in such prosperity and plenty, that there will be no longer any scope under this system for the hateful passions of envy, anger, or revenge, by which the world has been so long tormented. Mr Owen lays it down as a fundamental proposition, that land, labour, and capital, under more skilful management, might be made to support four times the number of people which are at present maintained by it, and, under this notion, he proposes collecting into workhouses, containing from 500 to 1500 persons, all the poor who cannot find employment; and in these workhouses they are to be furnished with work,—to labour in common,—and to form a sort of primitive society. It does not appear that such an establishment, however admirably it might be managed in its details, would differ from an ordinary work-house in this respect, that it must be supported by capital taken from the general fund, for maintaining productive industry. Mr Owen cannot create capital. He takes capital already accumulated, and, in so far, he diminishes the stock out of which labour is employed and supported. The effect of his plans, therefore, is merely to transfer the labourer to the work-house, and in this there is neither novelty nor ingenuity. As to the reformation which he proposes to accomplish in the habits and dispositions of mankind, this is chimerical in the extreme. The world, from time immemorial, has gone on in a course of strife, violence, and mischief. But a new era, we are told, is now to commence. These vices are to be superseded by gentleness, mildness, and peace. All is to be changed by the flat of Mr Owen. He seems to imagine, that he has found out a recipe for producing whatever quantity of wisdom and virtue he chooses to call into action; and he expects the world to give him credit for the possession of this wonderful power. It is useless to enter farther into the details of a scheme which is so wild and absurd in principle. We know that the foundation for vice and misery is laid deep in the constitution of human society,—that these evils, though they may be palliated by wise and beneficial institutions, can never be removed; and the pompous pretensions, therefore, of those political projectors, who, seeing no difficulties in the way of their schemes, undertake, without hesitation, to reverse the set-

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tied plan of human society, are not calculated to stand their ground before the canvassing spirit of the present age. Mr Owen deals chiefly in that sort of declamation which springs from an ardent and overheated zeal. He seems to belong to the school of large promise and little performance; and with regard to his motives, we have no doubt they are good, equally so with those of the Knight of La Mancha, when he proceeded to demolish the windmills, or to indulge in any of the other generous fancies which sprung from his disordered imagination. But we hold that all schemes which are thoroughly impracticable should be discouraged as speedily as possible, because their tendency is to divert our attention from what is useful and practical, to what is idle and speculative, and therefore useless.

We may conclude with observing, that the laws in Scotland, for the support of the poor, are similar in their principle to those in England. But the manners of the people have, in a great measure, superseded any general system of parochial relief. In Scotland, dependent poverty is considered disgraceful, and even for the relief of the sick and infirm, there is in many parishes no stated fund except what is collected weekly at the church doors, the fruit of voluntary charity. In the larger towns, however, assessments are now imposed for the relief of the poor. The amount of the sum required is fixed at a joint meeting of the minister, elders, and heritors of the parish. It falls on the real rents of property, either in houses or lands, and is paid jointly by the heritors and tenants. In the administration of this charity, it is stated in the report of the General Assembly, that no relief is ever given to the able-bodied labourer. The money collected is considered to be a provision for the sick and the infirm; and the common labourer, who is relieved in consequence of sickness, immediately ceases to receive assistance when he returns to his former industry. In many parishes, however, where public assessments for the poor were established, the ill effects of the system became very soon apparent. It was observed, that the introduction of regular assessments always produced an influx of paupers from other parishes, and thus swelled the demands for the poor beyond all reasonable proportion. The assessments also regularly and uniformly increased from their commencement. Claimants soon arose to absorb all the provision made, and hence new assessments were found necessary. This clearly shews the danger of the system which necessarily tends to corruption. A salutary jealousy still prevails in this country against the undue increase of public assessments for the poor, and it is only, we may be well assured, by constant watchfulness and care, that they can be restrained within due limits, and prevented from degenerating, as in England, into a source of general misery and corruption.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE CREDIT AND COMMERCE OF THE COUNTRY.

There can be no doubt that the commerce of this country, along with that of the world at large, has for some years past been exposed to serious derangement; and the consequences arising from this state of things have been severely felt by all those whose livelihood depended in any degree on the ancient state of commercial relations existing in Europe. The merchant has been ruined by the want of a market for his goods, and the mechanic has been exposed to suffer from the want of a market for his industry; while, in the course of this disastrous period, the price of provisions has fluctuated between the opposite extremes of extraordinary cheapness, and extraordinary dearth.

All the evils to which the labourer was formerly exposed were necessarily aggravated by the scarcity of subsistence, while returning plenty brought not with it all the alleviation of his unhappy condition which might have been expected, for the cheapness of provisions was of little avail to him while he was without employment, and without the means, therefore, of purchasing a sufficient quantity of subsistence, at however reduced a rate. For some time past, however, the country has been recovering from this extraordinary depression; some favourable symptoms in its condition are now perceptible. Its commerce now finds a reviving demand for its products; and the increasing plenty of money has begun to reanimate its languish-

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ing industry. Amid all these various and unlooked for changes; amid all the complicated principles of action which set in motion the vast and nicely regulated machine of modern society, it is a most curious, as well as an instructive, task, more especially where such precious interests are involved, to trace effects to their causes, and to endeavour precisely to ascertain the source of all those fatal disorders under which our commerce has been suffering, that we may, if possible, prevent their recurrence, and that we may thus derive instruction for the future from the unerring experience of the past. Political economy differs from some other sciences in this, that we can make no experiments on the objects in which it is conversant. But the great map of society lies open to our inspection; and it is only by a diligent and close examination that we can distinctly trace out all its intricate relations, and that we can, in this manner, reconcile all apparent anomalies, by referring each particular fact to the operation of some general law.

In any inquiry of the nature proposed, there are three points which present themselves to our consideration; *1st*, What were the immediate causes which produced the stagnation of our commerce? *2dly*, Is it likely that it will revive, and to what extent? and, *3dly*, What is the cause of the present increasing plenty of money, and what are likely to be its effects?

I. The immediate causes which produced the decline of our commerce, appear to be sufficiently obvious. During the whole course of the last and former wars, the commerce and manufactures of Britain were in the most flourishing condition, and many causes concurred to give to this country a very large proportion of the trade of the world. The distractions of France, in consequence of the Revolution, and the wars which desolated the continent, the effect of which was, to dissipate and destroy the funds of productive industry, were both adverse to the progress of commerce. In the meantime, Great Britain, enjoying domestic prosperity and peace, was rapidly accumulating capital, and improving in manufacturing skill. The great and increasing demands, both of Europe and America, gave a new and extraordinary stimulus to every species of industry. To supply this growing market, manufacturing establishments were extended,—labour was more and more subdivided,—new and ingenious machinery was erected,—and, under this system, the industry of Britain, in place of directly producing a supply of commodities suited to her own particular wants, came at length to be gradually adapted to the general supply of the world. All her great manufacturing establishments produced a surplus of their particular commodity above what was required for home consumption. This surplus was necessarily exported, and foreign commodities, for which there was a demand at home, were imported in return. In these circumstances, our manufactures, evidently depending on the foreign market for an outlet to their produce, they are suddenly interdicted from the market of Europe by the hostile decrees of France, with a vast army to execute them, and from that of America by the war which unhappily broke out between the two countries. In the loss, therefore, of all our accustomed markets, we find a perfectly adequate cause for the decline of our commerce and manufactures, and for the general distress of all that numerous class who depended on trade for employment and subsistence.

II. The more important question, however, remains to be considered, namely, whether commerce will speedily revive from its present depression? That it will ultimately revive we have no doubt. But considering the long continued annoyance to which it was exposed, some time must necessarily elapse before it can be restored to its former flourishing condition. Its progress during the late wars has already been pointed out, together with the various causes which, by increasing the demand, and extending the market for British goods, contributed to enlarge the different branches of our manufactures far beyond the scale of our own particular wants. Under this great extension of our commerce, the industry of the country was most skilfully managed, and its productive powers were greatly increased. But the manufactures produced were now in a great measure adapted to the foreign market. There was a large surplus above what was wanted at

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home, and when the demand therefore ceased abroad, or when the intercourse was obstructed, the supply, in order to avoid the difficulties which followed, ought to have been proportionally retrenched. But various circumstances prevented this. An immense capital was now invested in the new and somewhat artificial state of things, which had grown up in consequence of the disorders which had prevailed throughout Europe, and it could not be suddenly diverted into another channel without the most prodigious loss. The habits of the mechanic, also, were thoroughly adapted to certain branches of industry, and these being abandoned, it was evident that he would be exposed to idleness and misery The manufacturers, besides, hoped for better times, and various causes concurred to induce them to exhaust their capitals in continuing their respective employments, and thus the supply of British manufactures was prevented from being reduced to the level of the demand. The intercourse both with America and Europe was obstructed, —the demand and the consumption had ceased,—but it was long before the supply fell off in proportion, and the consequence was a continued accumulation of unsaleable produce. The market was completely overstocked, and when peace re-opened all the former channels of British commerce, an inundation of goods from the glutted warehouses of Britain were forced into the markets both of Europe and of America. Prices fell ruinously low, and little relief was afforded, because, although goods to a great amount were exported, they were sold to no profit, and they bore no proportion to the supply which was still left at home, and which had been accumulated during those years when there was little demand aad little consumption. The evil then by which the manufacturer is oppressed,—the weight which still clogs the movements of commerce, is a load of unsaleable produce, and until the market be cleared by the increase of consumption of what is superfluous, the industry of the country will not be restored to a state of soundness and vigour. But the supply and the demand naturally tend to suit themselves to each other, and a little time, therefore, will necessarily bring them to a level. When this takes place, the demand for British produce will revive,—prices will rise,—wages will be increased,—and all classes of manufacturers will be enabled, as before, to draw a comfortable subsistence from their capital and from their industry. The commerce of the country, indeed, may not be enlarged to the same extent as before. Other nations will, no doubt, employ their capital in the prosecution of manufacturing industry, and the restrictions and duties which have been imposed upon the importation of British goods into Europe by those who, from allies in war, have become rivals in trade, will undoubtedly be unfavourable to the extension of British commerce. But, to overcome these obstacles, we must trust, in some degree, to the greater capital, and to the improved machinery with which the industry of Britain is aided, and to the superior skill and ingenuity also of the British mechanic. Hitherto, certainly, neither the newly established manufactures of Europe nor of America have been able to stand before the competition of British goods, and one effect favourable to our commerce has thus resulted from the great accumulation of British manufactures, namely, that the infant establishments both of America and Europe have, in many cases, been entirely ruined, and have, in all cases, received a serious check from the immense importation of goods which has taken place from this country at such low prices, that they have made their way through every opposing barrier, either of unfavourable laws, or of protecting duties.

III. Since the restoration of peace, capital has been accumulating in the country;—money has become more plentiful, and mercantile confidence has begun to revive. The obvious cause of this appears to be, the cessation of the immense loans required by the public service during the war. The contributions of capital which the war imposed on productive industry were employed in supporting soldiers or sailors; by whom capital is destroyed without any commercial equivalent being produced in return. This annual waste, therefore, necessarily retarded the accumulation of capital. It created a void in the money market, which productive industry was called upon to fill up. All

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the capital which was taken out of the market in this way, never more to appear, is now left in the hands of the merchant and manufacturer to accumulate; and this includes not only the immense sums which were raised in the way of loan, but all the taxes which have been remitted to the country in consequence of the restoration of peace, namely, the property-tax, the war malt-tax, and several others of less importance. During the latter part of the war, also, the country was distracted by mercantile embarrassments, and by the decline of its agriculture. There was a great loss both of commercial and agricultural capital, from the depreciation of stock, as well as from the convulsions and bankruptcies which shook every order of the mercantile community, and diffused a spirit of universal distrust. All these causes, therefore, concurred, with the waste occasioned by the war, in preventing the accumulation of capital, and in rendering money scarce. So many unpropitious circumstances were at work to counteract the efforts of productive industry, that, for some time, the capital of the country was rather diminishing than increasing. But these evils appear now to have spent their force. According to the observation of Hume, there is a point of depression below which human affairs cannot remain for any length of time; and our affairs, from a combination of untoward circumstances, having ebbed to this point, the current now begins to flow in an opposite direction. The efforts of individual industry, in accumulating capital, being no longer counteracted, begin to be felt, and the general result is marked by the increasing plenty of money, and the restoration of commercial confidence.

To this cause, and not to any speculations of adventurers, is to be imputed the sudden rise in the value of funded property. It is scarcely necessary to remark, that government securities, differing in no respect from any other species of annuity, their price necessarily rises as the supply of capital increases, and the interest of money declines. The increase of capital, therefore, which has lately taken place, is the great and general cause of the late rise in the value of the public securities; and those who ascribe it to artificial combinations among the monied men, mistake the effect for the cause. The speculations in the money market are produced by the supply of money increasing in proportion to the demand; in consequence of which, it becomes difficult to find out any profitable mode of investing it. All the ordinary channels of commerce being amply supplied, the surplus naturally flows to the capital, which is the centre of all the money transactions of the kingdom, and where the immense mass of government securities affords continual scope for every species of pecuniary adventure. The accumulation of this superfluous capital in the metropolis, creates a demand for the public annuities; the price rises, and the money market becomes a lottery in which adventurers are eager to speculate. But those speculations do not occasion the rise of the funds. They are themselves the effects of the same cause, namely, the increasing plenty of money, which raises the value of the funds as well as every other species of annuity.

The necessary tendency of this increasing plenty of money, is to infuse new life and vigour into the languishing industry of the country. As the additional capital comes gradually to be distributed throughout the different branches of commerce and agriculture, it will create an increased demand for labour, of which the wages will of course rise, and it will thus contribute essentially to the comfort of the great mass of the community. It will also raise the value of land. The smaller the revenue yielded by money lent, the greater will be the inducement to invest it in land,—the value of which will rise in proportion to the increased demand. Part of the additional capital accumulated will also be laid out in agriculture, and will operate as a stimulus to improvement in this important branch of industry. Hence will arise a new demand for labour; while, by an increase of production, in consequence of extended or improved cultivation, the funds necessary for its support will be provided. That such will be the result of the accumulating capital of the country, cannot well be questioned. But time will be necessary to develope all those beneficial consequences. It is vain to suppose that the commerce or agriculture of the

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country can be instantaneously renovated into its former state of vigour. The great arrangements of society are slow and gradual, nor can they be accelerated, though they may be thwarted or retarded, by the contrivances of politicians. But although human affairs may not advance with so rapid a progress as we may think desirable, we may rest assured of this, that society contains, within itself, the true principles of perpetual improvement. That powerful motive which is continually impelling every man to exert himself for the bettering of his condition, will never allow human affairs to stand still; and trusting, therefore, to this principle, of sure and everlasting operation, we may, in the course of no very long period, rationally look forward to a state of progressive improvement in the condition of the country.

BORDER SKETCHES.

MR EDITOR,

During a late excursion through some of the Border districts, I jotted down a few brief notices of such things as struck me, at the time, as curious or interesting. Of these memoranda I now send you a sample, which, if not too trivial for the nature of your Miscellany, may perhaps serve to amuse some of your readers in the absence of more valuable materials.

Wormeden.—This place, which is a sort of marshy hollow, or recess, in the north-east side of Greenlees Hill, (Roxburghshire,) is said to have formerly been the lair of a *worme*, or serpent, which has been celebrated by Dr Leyden in his Scenes of Infancy, and by Walter Scott in his notes to the ballad of Kempion. From this recess, (which, by the bye, retains striking vestiges of having once been forest ground,) the *worme* was wont to issue forth, as the story goes, to lay waste the country around, till at last it was destroyed by the adventurous "Laird of Lariston," who slew the monster by thrusting down its throat a fiery peat on the point of his spear. An ancient piece of rude sculpture on the church wall of Linton, still commemorates this notable achievment; another, and somewhat less exaggerated account of which may also be found in the "Memorie of the Somervilles."

John Leyden, father of the lamented Dr John Leyden, a most respectable and intelligent old man, related to me a curious tradition about another enormous *worme* which, in former times, is said to have infested the banks of the Oxnam Water, and which was also overcome and slain in single combat by a doughty Tinker or Gipsey, who, after the manner of the old Grecian worthies, attacked and destroyed it with a knotty club. May not the authority of these and innumerable other traditions of a similar description be received for the existence of large snakes in this country at a former period? or are we to suppose that *all* such legends are mere local variations of the old story of St George and the Dragon?

Traquair.—I was much disappointed here, when they pointed out to me the *Bush aboon Traquair*,—or rather what is called the New Bush; which is nothing else than an ugly square clump of Scotch firs, planted on the side of a bleak hill, at a distance from every thing in the landscape that is pleasing or poetical. The rest of the scenery, however, abundantly compensates for this piece of bad taste.—The situation and appearance of the old mansion of Traquair is beautiful and interesting in the highest degree. But what very particularly struck me, was the wonderful resemblance in the whole aspect of the gateway, avenue, and house itself, to the semi-gothic bear-guarded mansion of Tulley-Veolan, as described by the author of Waverley. It is true, indeed, that, in place of the multitudinous representations of the *Bear*, so profusely scattered around the environs of Bradwardine, we have here only the single pair which adorn the gate at the entrance of the avenue,—and that the avenue itself cannot pretend to match the broad continuous shade through which Waverley approached the castle of the hospitable and redoubted Baron, —and also that several other important features are wanting to complete the resemblance; yet, if I be not altogether imposed upon by my own fancy, there is a likeness sufficiently strong to support the idea, that this scene formed the original *study* of the more finished and bold-featured picture of the celebrated novelist.

E.

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REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Secret and True History of the Church of Scotland, from the Restoration to the year 1678. By the Rev. Mr James Kirkton. 4to. Edinburgh, John Ballantyne, 1817.

Although few subjects are really more interesting than the history of the Reformation in Scotland, yet it is only of late that much attention has been paid to it, and that many who had taken it for granted that the reformers were foolish, and violent, and detestable enthusiasts, have, with some astonishment, discovered that they displayed, in their efforts to introduce the Protestant faith, an intrepidity, a zeal, and an elevation of principle, which we cannot too highly venerate.

The Reformation in this country was, from its infancy, interwoven with political freedom. It was, at its commencement, strenuously opposed by the united energy of the monarch and the church; and it thus became necessary to gain the esteem and support of the people, in order to counterbalance the resistance which threatened to render its accomplishment impossible. It was, through the prudence of those who conducted it, gradually disseminated; and it at length was so extensively embraced, that it completed its triumph, by obtaining the sanction of the legislature. Still, however, much ground was left for diversity of sentiment; and various causes united in producing a state of the public mind which gave rise to the most memorable events,—events which powerfully affected our civil condition, and the complexion of the national character.

From the connection which Knox had with Calvin and the other illustrious divines of Geneva, he was led, as soon as the ascendancy of the Reformation was secured, to give to the ecclesiastical polity, which was to be introduced, a popular form; and his views were carried fully into effect, after his death, by Melvil, who succeeded in overthrowing the modified system of Episcopacy which he found existing, and in establishing the Presbyterian discipline. To this discipline James the Sixth gave occasionally a cold and reluctant support; but he did not conceal the jealousy with which he regarded it; and, although he did not, whilst he remained in Scotland, directly attempt its subversion, he exerted his influence in making such changes as, by restraining the honest and manly independence of some of the most eminent ministers, would, he trusted, render it subservient to the views and the designs of the court. After he had ascended the throne of England, and had been gratified with the obsequiousness of the bishops, who exhibited, to be sure, in this respect, a very marked, and to him a very delightful contrast, to the rugged plainness of his former ecclesiastics, he determined, as the most effectual mode of strengthening the prerogative, to introduce Episcopacy into his native kingdom; and, to attain his object, he had recourse to means which alienated the affections of a vast proportion of his subjects, which still more endeared to them the principles to which they had been previously attached, and inspired them with the conviction that it was a duty which it would be impiety to neglect, to defend, even against the sovereign himself, these principles.

His infatuated and unfortunate son, when he at length turned his attention to Scotland, resolved to go far beyond what his father had effected, and to compel his countrymen to submit to a perfect uniformity of faith and polity with their southern neighbours. The rashness with which he made the attempt, his disregard of the plainest indications of aversion to his measures, the violence of the bishops whom he selected, and the disgust of the nobility excited by his marked partiality to the prelates, and his conferring upon them some of the most splendid civil offices, soon formed a general resolution to oppose his innovations; the opposition was identified, in the public estimation, with religion itself, and by the most awful and striking oaths, administered with whatever could increase their efficacy, the enemies of Episcopacy bound them-

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selves to exterminate Prelacy, and to re-establish that form of polity which, from numberless associations, they regarded with the utmost reverence, and which they were prepared to defend with the most ardent zeal. The limits to which we must be confined, render it impossible to give even a faint sketch of the part which they acted in the civil commotions that terminated in the execution of the king; but it may be evident, from what has been already stated, that the feelings of the people must have been strongly excited, and it cannot be matter of wonder, that, accustomed as they were to consider their cause as the cause of God, almost constantly employed in those exercises of devotion in which they implored his blessing upon it, and stimulated by the homely but energetic addresses of their beloved pastors, many of them yielded to the fervour of a heated imagination, and were influenced by what, when the causes which produced it have ceased to operate, must appear to be the wildness of enthusiasm. This was the unavoidable effect of the circumstances in which they were placed,—it was the excess into which the weakness of our nature, under these circumstances, could scarcely fail to be betrayed; but we must penetrate through it to appreciate their character, and we shall find, that the great body of them were actuated by the most heroic attachment to freedom, and by the firmest determination not to bow their necks to the crushing oppression of the most savage despotism. During the period which elapsed between the death of Charles and the restoration of his son, they split, as might have been anticipated, into parties, and there was certainly, amongst many of those who assumed the appellation of protesters, a degree of fanaticism which bewildered their understandings, and which, when aggravated, as it afterwards was, by the horrors of persecution, did lead to the most lamentable departure from duty and from humanity; but this, under a gentle administration, would have gradually yielded to the milder spirit of their brethren, whilst the activity and earnestness which distinguished their ministry might have remained.

Charles the Second, although he declared his purpose of supporting the religion established by law, in language, about the meaning of which no honest man could hesitate, and which, if it were extended to deceive, fixes indelible infamy both upon the king and the men who advised him, soon directed against presbytery the fury of an iron government; he abolished its judicatories, and by virtue of his prerogative, forced episcopacy in a form much more obnoxious than it had previously assumed in Scotland, upon a nation penetrated with the conviction, that submission to it was impiety, and little disposed to venerate authority which had not scrupled to contaminate itself by having recourse to the meanest dissimulation, and by forming an union with the basest apostacy. We must read the history of the dire persecutions, must read the shocking details which, in sad abundance, have been transmitted, and which are so authenticated that prejudice and scepticism must admit their reality, to have an adequate conception of the profligacy, the cruelty, and the vile oppression which prevailed in Scotland; the heart sickens at the dismal narration, and we must have extinguished every feeling of humanity and patriotism, if we do not sympathize with the unhappy Presbyterians and Covenanters, who were tortured, because they would not abjure a cause implicated with the freedom of their country, and, as they were satisfied, with the eternal salvation of its inhabitants. It is to a considerable part of this melancholy period that the work now before us relates; the author, after a concise and fair sketch of the earlier stages of the Reformation, entering fully upon what happened between the Restoration and the sixteen hundred and seventy-eight, or upon the miseries in which he saw those whom he venerated involved, and of which he was doomed to have an ample portion.

We have given this short view of the history of the Covenanters, because we conceive, that, without attention to it, we cannot justly estimate the merit and tone of Kirkton's book, and many of the sentiments and peculiarities of opinion which it contains. He was himself a Covenanter, and, from being a minister, he took an active part in the events which he witnessed. His work, upon this ac-

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count alone, would be interesting, because he must have been acquainted with circumstances which later historians might overlook; and because, writing from what was passing before him, he could scarcely fail to give a true delineation of the feelings and manners of the era which he records. But he does much more than this; he displays a vigorous and an observing mind;—he narrates the events which he was anxious to transmit in language, natural, perspicuous, and far from devoid of energy; and he does so in general, as his editor admits, with a candour, which, considering his situation, reflects the highest credit upon him as a man and a historian. He has not, indeed, escaped from the influence of prejudices, which he would have been more than a human being had he surmounted: he sometimes gravely details, as matter of fact, what modern writers would reject as the delusions of superstition; he views his opponents through too dark a medium, attributing to them occasionally worse motives than those which actually swayed them; whilst he speaks with natural partiality of the friends with whom he acted, painting, in the fairest colours, the merit which they had, and reluctantly admitting, now and then not admitting at all, the errors and the faults of which they were guilty. His book, therefore, should rather be considered as supplying valuable materials for history, than as history itself, as it would be unsafe to form, from it alone, our opinions of the age to which it relates, or of the men of that age. The following account of the state of the public mind as to episcopacy, at the period of the Restoration, will give some idea of the nature of the work.

"Episcopacy hade never been popular in Scotland, not in the dayes of ancient ignorance; but since the Reformation, in regarde Scotland was reformed by a sort of missionaries from Geneva, bishops were alwayes looked at with a frown. Indeed, the people of Scotland (leaving the arguments from Scripture and the testimonies of Jerom to schollars) used much to insist upon a sort of popular concrete arguments. The bishops hade almost all been both patrones of sin and paterns of profaneness; and if a man in repute turned bishop, it was observed he changed both frame and practice to the worse; and, as Beza had foretold, bishops would introduce epicurisme and atheism; so Scotland found godliness w thered under their shadow, and wickedne overspread the land first and last. The had a sting for no man but a puritan or presbyterian; beside, they knew well th the bishops, having perjured themselv most solemnly, would do as the fallen an gels did,—endeavour to corrupt mankin by involving all Scotland in their own sin that so their personal sin might be excu able as being the sin of the times. The hade also seen a curse attend almost all th bishops' persons and families, and all th were active to introduce them were plague as these that rebuilt Jericho, and such these they loved not. It was also foun by experience, that as episcopacy is branch of popery, so it led alwayes to th root, and therefore bishops were looked as the papists harbingers. So the body the people of Scotland were heart enemi to bishops; and even those of the minist who joyned with the bishops in their pr tended synods and presbyteries, protest themselves enemies to episcopacy, protestin they believed what they did might well co sist with the principles of a presbyterian and they kept themselves in place only th they might be in condition to oppose th bishops' course, which they alleadged th ministers turned out could not so we doe."

We should have had much plea sure, had our limits admitted of it, i presenting to our readers several mor extracts, but we must go on to pay little attention to the manner i which the secret History of the Churc of Scotland has been given to the pub lic.

It might have been very naturall supposed that the manuscript havin fallen into the hands of some admire of the Covenanters, he was anxious t favour the world with a documen which he conceived likely to dissem nate his admiration. But the cas happens to be far otherwise. Mr K S. is one of the old school in respec to the Reformation in Scotland,—h is quite satisfied that Knox was a l centious man, and as a preacher, wa "almost totally devoid of sound doc trine, solid learning, and commo sense," and that those who succeede him were ignorant and deluded, an not very well principled, enthusiast To establish all this, he has no scrupled to repeat what he might hav known was the contemptible tale slander, not believed even when was audaciously published; and whe he does not go this length, he give the lie to the author whom he ha

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very splendidly printed and adorned, by collecting examples of the absurdity and bad taste of the men whom Kirkton venerates; and has certainly so contrived his commentary, that we rise from the perusal of it, if we have not sufficient information to detect its unfairness and its fallacy, with opinions just the opposite of those which Kirkton was anxious to establish. He has, in one word, if we may venture to use the expression, mistaken the outer garment of the Covenanters for the Covenanters themselves, and because it is not quite so fashionably shaped as a polished man, such as he is, would have it to be, he concludes that neither moral worth, political integrity, nor true piety, can be found under it.

Whilst we give Mr S. credit for his diligence and research, we are astonished that he has wholly overlooked those recent works which have detailed the history of the Reformation and the Church of Scotland, and investigated the biography of the Father of both; had he perused them, he would probably have withheld some of his quotations; he would have avoided some errors into which he has fallen; and he would, unquestionably, in various other respects, have been better qualified for the task which he has undertaken.

In his biographical notice of Kirkton, he speaks of this covenanting divine with little respect; and he has prefixed to the history two sermons, to shew the wretched, and not very decent, style of his preaching. There are, no doubt, passages in these discourses which could not be delivered to a modern audience; but there is a vast deal more good sense than we find in many discourses of the bishops who lived about the same period; and whether we be right in this or not, we cannot see what end was to be served by swelling the volume with the sermons. Of Kirkton we will form our opinion from his history; and if it establish, as it unquestionably does, the respectability of his talents, it follows, that any peculiarity in his mode of preaching must be ascribed, not to deficiency in him, but to the taste, bad enough we allow, of the age in which he lived.

There is added to the history an account of the murder of Archbishop Sharp, by one of the persons who were engaged in it. This atrocious deed, to which the tergiversation and the cruelty of the primate instigated some furious men driven to desperation, must be viewed with abhorrence; and, let it not be forgotten, that there is decisive evidence of its having been so viewed by the great body of the Presbyterians. In relation to Sharp, we have only room further to say, that the feeble attempt to vindicate him, made by the editor of Kirkton, is just about as hopeless as it is unnecessary; for we do think that the Episcopalians need not scruple to resign the archbishop to the richly deserved censure of the Covenanters, his primacy having been more fatal to Episcopacy than it was even to Presbytery.

We cannot close this article without a few words in relation to the Tales of my Landlord, so much connected with the present subject, and to the deep interest excited by which we suspect that we owe the publication both of Kirkton's history, and of the commentary so preposterously attached to it. The title of this fascinating work exempts the author of it from the obligation of accuracy, as to the history upon which his tale is founded, and we do not think that he is amenable at the bar of criticism for the colouring spread over the incidents so admirably interwoven in his story, provided no other charge can be brought against him. But all tales, whether historical or not, ought to have a salutary tendency; if they be calculated to mislead our moral judgment, they cannot be too severely censured. Upon this score we cannot acquit the author of the Tales of my Landlord. He has certainly, as is indeed admitted by friends and foes, sought to hold up to ridicule the whole body of Covenanters, and to invest their opponents with a gallantry and generosity of spirit which are very apt to captivate general readers. Now, as the Covenanters, with all their faults, did resist despotism, and their earthly persecutors did what lay in them to entail it upon their country, there is some danger that we associate the cause of the Presbyterians with the men who supported it, as he has painted them, and may thus vastly undervalue the freedom which it is our duty, and should be our happiness, to revere.

But we do not regret that the Tales

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were published, because we are persuaded, that the curiosity which they have excited, and which graver works would not have raised, graver works alone now will satisfy; and although, no doubt, many readers of the Tales will, after getting a new novel, think no more of the Covenanters, yet there are not a few who will seriously inquire what they actually were, and how they really conducted themselves. We anticipate from this inquiry the happiest results; for whilst the errors and crimes of some of the Covenanters will be discovered, their merit upon the whole will be duly appreciated, and what is of much more consequence than any opinion respecting them, the view of the misery and oppression to which they were subjected, will kindle that pure love of liberty to which we owe our invaluable constitution, and which we must cherish in the rising generation, if that constitution is to be transmitted to our children.

The Lament of Tasso. By Lord Byron. 8vo. Murray, London, 1817.

There are few situations more affecting, or more calculated to impress the mind of a poet, than that which Lord Byron has made the subject of this short effusion. A bard who ranks with the greatest of modern times, shut out from the world, nature, and liberty, in the abode of frenzy, among beings who retain the human form, but in whom the divine image within is almost wholly obliterated—and all for love, too daring, inspired by an object raised so high by fortune, as never to admit a thought of her becoming his,—present a concurrence of events that must awaken the deepest interest. Some recent critics, in the course of indefatigable researches into Italian literary history, have raised doubts, whether this hopeless despised passion was really the grand source, or even any source, of the miseries of Tasso. Without investigating this question, we shall only say, that the reigning belief, be it true or false, is the only one to which a poet can poetically adhere; and it was, therefore, out of the question for Lord Byron to admit any doubts on the subject. According to this belief, the situation, without any aid from fancy, affords full scope for that intense force of sensibility, those deep and solemn reflections, which form the reigning tone of Lord Byron's composition. The poem consists of a soliloquy of Tasso, when thus abandoned, as it were, by all nature, and left alone in this dreadful solitude. The beginning is forcible, though somewhat hard:

"Long years!—It tries the thrilling frame to bear
And eagle-spirit of a Child of Song—
Long years of outrage, calumny, and wrong;
Imputed madness, prisoned solitude,
And the mind's canker in its savage mood,
When the impatient thirst of light and air
Parches the heart; and the abhorred grate,
Marring the sunbeams with its hideous shade,
Works through the throbbing eyeball to the brain
With a hot sense of heaviness and pain;
And bare, at once, Captivity displayed
Stands scoffing through the never-opened gate,
Which nothing through its bars admits, save day
And tasteless food, which I have eat alone
Till its unsocial bitterness is gone;
And I can banquet like a beast of prey,
Sullen and lonely, couching in the cave
Which is my lair, and—it may be—my grave."

There is something more pleasing in the farewell which he takes of the long and pleasant task that the Jerusalem had afforded him; and extreme delicacy in the manner in which the name of Leonora is first introduced.

——— "My pleasant task is done:—
My long-sustaining friend of many years!
If I do blot thy final page with tears,
Know, that my sorrows have wrung from me none.
But thou, my young creation! my soul's child!
Which ever playing round me came and smiled,
And wooed me from myself with thy sweet sight,
Thou too art gone—and so is my delight:
And therefore do I weep and inly bleed
With this last bruise upon a broken reed.
Thou too art ended—what is left me now?
For I have anguish yet to bear—and how?
I know not that—but in the innate force
Of my own spirit shall be found resource.
I have not sunk, for I had no remorse,
Nor cause for such: they called me mad—and why?
Oh Leonora! wilt not thou reply?"

The horrors of the scene in which

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he is immured appear to be described with an energy truly extraordinary:

—" This vast lazar-house of many woes?
Where laughter is not mirth, nor thought the mind,
Nor words a language, nor ev'n men mankind;
Where cries reply to curses, shrieks to blows,
And each is tortured in his separate hell—
For we are crowded in our solitudes—
Many, but each divided by the wall,
Which echoes Madness in her babbling moods;
While all can hear, none heed his neighbour's call—
None! save that One, the veriest wretch of all,
Who was not made to be the mate of these."

The following description of the gradual preparation of the principle of love within his heart, and its sudden unfolding at the view of the object, appears drawn with extraordinary interest.

"It is no marvel—from my very birth
My soul was drunk with love—which did pervade
And mingle with whate'er I saw on earth;
Of objects all inanimate I made
Idols, and out of wild and lonely flowers,
And rocks, whereby they grew, a paradise,
Where I did lay me down within the shade
Of waving trees, and dreamed uncounted hours,
Though I was chid for wandering; and the wise
Shook their white aged heads o'er me, and said
Of such materials wretched men were made,
And such a truant boy would end in woe,
And that the only lesson was a blow;
And then they smote me, and I did not weep,
But cursed them in my heart, and to my haunt
Returned and wept alone, and dreamed again
The visions which arise without a sleep.
And with my years my soul began to pant
With feelings of strange tumult and soft pain;
And the whole heart exhaled into One Want,
But undefiled and wandering, till the day
I found the thing I sought,—and that was thee;
And then I lost my being all to be
Absorbed in thine—the world was past away—
Thou didst annihilate the earth to me!"

Still more exquisite, perhaps, is the following picture of love suppressed, but not extinguished.

"Look on a love which knows not to despair,
But all unquenched is still my better part,
Dwelling deep in my shut and silent heart
As dwells the gathered lightning in its cloud,
Encompassed with its dark and rolling shroud,
Till struck,—forth flies the all-etherial dart!
And thus at the collision of thy name
The vivid thought still flashes through my frame,
And for a moment all things as they were
Flit by me;—they are gone—I am the same."

The conclusion appears elaborate, yet it is not equal to the passages already noticed, and the last lines even border on conceit; however, it is not unworthy of being quoted.

"And thou, Leonora! thou—who wert ashamed
That such as I could love—who blushed to hear
To less than monarchs that thou couldst be dear,
Go! tell thy brother that my heart, untamed
By grief, years, weariness—and it may be
A taint of that he would impute to me—
From long infection of a den like this,
Where the mind rots congenial with the abyss,
Adores thee still;—and add—that when the towers
And battlements which guard his joyous hours
Of banquet, dance, and revel, are forgot,
Or left untended in a dull repose,
This—this shall be a consecrated spot!
But Thou—when all that Birth and Beauty throws
Of magic round thee is extinct—shalt have
One half the laurel which o'ershades my grave.
No power in death can tear our names apart,
As none in life could rend thee from my heart.
Yes, Leonora! it shall be our fate
To be entwined for ever—but too late!"

Upon the whole, this little piece wants the interest arising from narrative, and from any detailed picture of female attractions; but within its limits it contains as much that is pleasing and affecting, as any other composition of this distinguished poet.

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Reports of some Recent Decisions, by the Consistorial Court of Scotland, in Actions of Divorce, concluding for Dissolution of Marriages celebrated under the English Law. By James Fergusson, Esq. Advocate, one of the Judges. 8vo. pp. 470. Constable and Co. Edinburgh, 1817.

The volume now before us contains a very able discussion of a most interesting and important question of international law;—the question, we mean, Whether the Consistorial Court of this country does or ought to possess the power of dissolving marriages contracted in England, on account of adultery committed in Scotland?

In Scotland, marriage is held to be merely a civil contract, constituted by the consent of the parties, and dissoluble by the Consistorial Court on proof of adultery. In England, on the other hand, marriage cannot be constituted by the mere consent of the parties; it requires the intervention and benediction of a priest, and, when once constituted, cannot be dissolved by judicial sentence. In the event of infidelity in either of the parties, all that the Consistorial Court of England can do, is to pronounce sentence of separation *a mensa et thoro;*—the higher remedy of divorce *a vinculo matrimonii* can only be obtained by a Legislative act, which it is both difficult and expensive to procure.

The Consistorial Court of Scotland has, for time immemorial, possessed the power of dissolving marriage; and till lately, it exercised that power, without scruple, in the case of all persons found within its jurisdiction, whether Scotch or English, and whether the marriage had been celebrated in Scotland or in England. The attention, however, of the Judges of our Consistorial Court, was lately attracted, in a very particular manner, to the nature of English marriages, and to the question, whether they ought to be held dissoluble in a Scotch court, by the following circumstances: In the *first* place, actions of divorce, for the dissolution of English marriages, had become very numerous; In the *second* place, Lolly, an Englishman, who had married in England, after having been divorced by the Consistorial Court of Scotland, was tried for bigamy, and found guilty; the twelve judges having delivered an opinion on a reserved case, "that a marriage, solemnized in England, was indissoluble in any other way than by an act of the Legislature;" and, in the *third* place, the Lord Chancellor, after making a speech which indicated that he doubted strongly of the power of the Consistorial Court of Scotland to dissolve English marriages, remitted the case of Lindsay and Tovey to the Court of Session to reconsider that point. These circumstances arrested the attention of the Commissaries, and pointed out to them the extreme danger of dissolving English marriages. They could not help viewing, with pain, the circumstance, that notwithstanding their sentence, parties marrying again in England were held to be liable to punishment for bigamy. The result was, that they bestowed upon the question the most deliberate consideration, and came to the conclusion, that they had no power to dissolve marriages contracted in England, between English parties, merely on their being found and cited in Scotland to an action of divorce.

We do not mean to enter into a detail of the particular cases reported in the volume now before us. It is our intention merely to give a general view of the questions discussed relative to the dissolution of English marriages in Scotland. We refer those who may wish more information to the book itself, and have no hesitation in saying, that, from a perusal of the reports it contains, and from the valuable appendix with which it is accompanied, they will receive much gratification and instruction upon a subject embracing a variety of the most important questions of international law.

The first question to which the Commissaries directed their attention seems to be, Whether an Englishman, who had been married in England, and who had come to Scotland without any intention of taking up a permanent residence, became amenable to the Consistorial Court of Scotland in an action of divorce? Although this is not the most general and important question discussed in the volume under review, yet it is one of considerable difficulty. In Scotland, there are two kinds of domi-

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cile; the one real, where the party has made Scotland the place of his permanent abode; and the other *presumptive*, assumed by a fiction of law, from a forty days' residence in it. The object of this *presumptive* domicile appears to be, to found jurisdiction against foreigners in ordinary civil suits. It does not seem to alter the nature of the obligations incumbent upon him, or the duties he ought to perform in his own country. Hence, the Commissaries seem to have thought, that, as marriage is indissoluble in England, except by an act of the Legislature, the parties could not, by removing to Scotland for a short time, acquire a domicile, to the effect of entitling the Consistorial Court of this country to convene them before it, for the purpose of dissolving a marriage, which, by the laws of the country where it was constituted, and to which the parties must be held to have had reference, was indissoluble. As to marriages constituted in England, the parties stood bound to fulfil the obligations incumbent on them only in that country, and hence redress fell to be sought according to the law of the place where they stood bound to perform their engagements. Accordingly, they found in the case of Tewsh, that, as the defender had not taken up a permanent residence in Scotland, they had no jurisdiction to dissolve his marriage, which had been contracted in England. The Court of Review, however, entertained a different opinion of this question. The Judge of that Court (the Court of Session) who remitted the case to the Commissaries, with instructions to alter their judgment, held, that the relation of husband and wife is a relation acknowledged by the law of nations,—that the duties and obligations incident to that relation, as recognised by the law of Scotland, and the right to redress wrongs thence arising, attach on all married persons living within the territory subject to that law, without regard to the place where their marriage may have been celebrated,—and that the right and duty of the Consistorial Court to administer justice in such a case over persons not natural-born subjects, arose from their voluntarily rendering themselves amenable to the laws of the country, by living within its territory at the time of citation.

But the great question which seems to have engaged the chief attention of the Commissaries, and which is most amply discussed in these reports, is, Whether the Consistorial Court of Scotland have power to dissolve a marriage celebrated in England, between English parties *domiciled* here? It is impossible to give a correct abridgment of the able opinions of the Commissaries on this very important question; but the general outline may be stated thus:—There is a radical difference betwixt the law of England and of Scotland as to marriage and divorce. In England, marriage is indissoluble by judicial sentence. The question must be decided either according to the law of domicile, or the law of the place of contract. In a question of this kind, the *lex domicilii* is not a safe rule of decision. There is a wide difference betwixt a domicile sufficient to found a *jurisdiction*, and a domicile sufficient to regulate the decision of a question of permanent situation. The *real* domicile of the parties is in England,—the domicile acquired in Scotland is merely sufficient to found jurisdiction. If the law of domicile, therefore, is to be the rule, the question falls to be decided according to the principles of the English law. The preferable rule, however, by which to decide the question, is the law of the *place of contract*. The principle of *comitas*, in virtue of which foreign contracts are expounded according to the law of the country in which they are entered into, ought to extend the length of inducing the Court to decline to do what the courts of England could not do. The genius of the law both of England and Scotland favours the perpetuity of marriage; hence there is nothing in the law of Scotland to prevent the Court from respecting the indissoluble quality of an English marriage. The law of nations is acknowledged in Scotland to regulate all foreign contracts; and there is nothing in the nature of a marriage contract to prevent the application of that principle. As to expediency, it is quite obvious that it is hostile to the interference of the Court with marriages contracted in countries where they are held to be indissoluble by judicial sentence. An opposite construction would amount to a public invitation to all married persons in the sister kingdom, tired of their union,

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and profligate in their manners, to come into Scotland, and outrage the moral feelings of the people, for the purpose of regaining freedom. These are alarming consequences, and which ought to induce the Court to refuse to do more than could be done by the courts in England.

On these grounds, the Commissaries refused to sustain their jurisdiction in several cases; but the Court of Session, after deliberately reviewing their judgment, remitted the cases, with instructions to the Commissaries to sustain their jurisdiction, and proceed in the divorces. The principles maintained by the Court of Session, in opposition to the views of the Commissaries, seem to have been to the following effect:—*Indissolubility* is in reality no part of the contract in an English marriage. The English courts give a separation *a mensa et thoro*, and Parliament gives a divorce. The Parliament acts as a court of law, deciding in a particular form a particular case. The general rule therefore applies, that the state of persons falls to be determined according to the law of the country where they reside, whether it be permanent or temporary. The Scotch courts give effect to the law of the *place of contract* only in conformity with its own law. The doctrine of *comitas* does not apply, because, although effect was to be given to the law of the place of contract, it would fall to be controlled by the subsequent offence, which would be judged of according to the law of the place where the offence had been committed. It would be morally injurious to give effect, in a question of this kind, to the law of the place of contract, because it would be putting it in the power of foreigners to live in Scotland, with impunity, in open profligacy. Besides, this principle of *comitas* is not of universal application. It does not take place in contracts regarding real estates—nor where the parties had in view at the time the law of another kingdom—nor where it would be attended with injustice—nor where it would be injurious to the interests of civil society.

Having thus laid before our readers the opposite arguments of the Inferior and Superior Courts on this great question, we have only to add, that, although we think the Commissaries were, from the unpleasant circumstance that occurred in Lolly's case, called upon to reconsider the question most deliberately, yet, that, after they had become acquainted with the opinions of the Court of Review, they appear to us to have persisted too long in their own views, and to have framed their judgments with by far too much anxiety and caution. Mr Fergusson's Reports form, indeed, an able apology for their conduct; but it does not seem to us to be the duty of a judge to look to the consequences of his decisions; he is merely called upon to declare the law, be the consequences what they may; for it will be difficult to find any general law which may not appear to be attended with evil consequences in particular cases. The question, however, is one of great nicety and difficulty; and we beg again to refer those who wish to study it thoroughly, to the work before us, for the publication of which Mr Fergusson is well entitled to the thanks, both of professional men and of the public at large.

Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa, by the late John Leyden, M.D.; enlarged and completed to the present time, with Illustrations of its Geography and Natural History, as well as of the Moral and Social Condition of its Inhabitants. By Hugh Murray, Esq. F.R.S.E. 8vo. pp. 512, 536. Edinburgh. Constable and Co. 1817.

An ardent spirit of inquiry after unknown countries, is one of the circumstances by which Britain has been most honourably distinguished during the present reign. The enterprise of scientific curiosity, seconded by the resources of an enlightened government, has included within the limits of geographical knowledge a new portion of the globe; and what is of still greater importance, has caught from its own progress an impulse which is not likely to cease, while any one region of the world remains unknown. When successive voyages of discovery had reduced the fancied Southern Continent, to which geographers had fondly assigned the name of *Terra Australis Incognita*, to that important group of islands now called Australasia, and had detailed the numerous

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isles which lie scattered over the bosoms of the Southern and the Pacific Oceans, the views of scientific men were naturally directed towards Africa, where nearly a whole continent remained to be explored. Hitherto the knowledge of Europeans, with regard to that immense continent, extended little beyond its coasts. The northern regions, indeed, were tolerably well known, both from the ample description given of them by Leo Africanus, early in the sixteenth century, and from the intercourse to which their vicinity invited the southern nations of Europe. The Portuguese, who have the glory of being the first modern nation that explored its western and eastern shores, had established many factories, particularly on the rivers in the west; and in their attempts to penetrate into the interior, they became acquainted with several kingdoms and countries, which had never before been heard of by any individual north of the Mediterranean. On the western coast, the kingdoms of Benin, Congo, Angolo, Matamba, and Loango; on the eastern, Sofala, Mozambique, Quiloa, Mombaza, and Melinda, besides the great Empire of Abyssinia, were first made known to Europeans by the Portuguese, whose missionaries, had they been men of intelligence and science, possessed ample opportunities of collecting information concerning the customs, laws, government, and religion, of these various kingdoms. The Portuguese monarch had assumed the additional title of King of Guinea; and the advantages which he was supposed to derive from his settlements in Africa, would probably have directed to the same quarter the spirit of enterprise and activity which then began to prevail in Europe, had not the doubling of the Cape of Good Hope opened to the merchant more alluring prospects in India; while the recent discovery of America presented a new world to the cupidity, or curiosity, of the adventurer. The profits arising from the detestable traffic in slaves, had induced some of the European States to form settlements on the western coast of Africa. The English, French, and Spaniards had, for this purpose, established factories to the north of the equator; from the equator to the tropic of Capricorn, the Portuguese had similar establishments, both on the eastern and western shores; and the Dutch had regularly colonized the Cape of Good Hope. But these settlements had introduced Europeans to a very trifling distance from the coast, while they seemed to shut up the interior more closely than ever from European curiosity. By their avarice and oppression, the settlers had excited the natural indignation of the natives against Christians; and the arts of the slave merchant, by increasing the frequency of their wars, heightened the ferocity of their various tribes, and thus rendered it more dangerous for a white adventurer to appear amongst them.

"The geography of Africa," says Leyden, "extended very little within its coasts; a few positions were ascertained, and a few lines traced on the margin of the map; while the interior was a *charta rasa*, an extended blank of immense size, where every thing was unsettled and uncertain. On this desart space, the geographer, following blindly the steps of Edrisi the Nubian, traced the uncertain course of unexplored rivers, and a few names of towns equally unknown. The course of the Niger, the rise and termination, nay, the separate existence of that stream, were equally undetermined. Since De la Brue and Moore, half a century had elapsed, but the Senegal had not been explored beyond the falls of Felu; nor the Gambia beyond those of Baraconda." (First Edition, Chap. I.)

The scanty knowledge which was obtained of some parts of the interior, had been derived chiefly from the exertions of a few enterprising individuals who had penetrated in different directions these generally forbidding regions. Caffraria, which had been partly traversed by Dr Sparmann between the years 1772-6, and by Mr Paterson 1777-8, was afterwards more fully explored by M. Vaillant, who has described the situation, political state, customs, and manners of various nations, till then unknown to Europeans even by name; though the indulgence which he seems to give to his fancy considerably impairs the authenticity of his narrative. Nubia and Egypt had been visited by Norden, whose picturesque and interesting journey was published in 1755; and Bruce, after a long residence in Abyssinia, published in 1788 his minute but entertaining account of the geography, the government, customs, and manners, of that singular kingdom.

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Such was the state of African geography, when a few gentlemen of rank and learning, considering our ignorance of that continent as a reproach to an age distinguished by the success of its researches in the remotest regions of the world, formed themselves into an *Association for promoting the Discovery of the Interior Parts of Africa.* Nothing can be more laudable than the zeal with which they have pursued the grand object of their association; yet the obstacles to their success are still so numerous and so formidable, that, aided though they be by government, we dare hardly join Mr Murray in the pleasing anticipation, "that, in the course of fifteen or twenty years, Africa will lose its place in the list of unknown regions." At all events, the progress of discovery in that continent will continue to be an object of peculiar interest to the friends of religion and science; and the humane exertions in its behalf which have succeeded to the atrocities of the slave-trade, will, we may venture to hope, rapidly diffuse over this hitherto unfortunate portion of the globe the blessings of knowledge and civilization.

Dr Leyden, entering with the enthusiasm of genius and philanthropy into the views of this benevolent association, undertook to "exhibit the progress of discoveries at this period in North and West Africa, by combining a delineation of the appearance of the country, an account of its native productions, a description of the peculiar manners of the African tribes, with a detail of the adventures of the travellers by whom these researches were accomplished." It was a subject in which his whole mind and soul were engaged; and for which he was peculiarly qualified, not merely by the romantic turn of his imagination, but by his unwearied patience of research, and by a vigour of intellect before which every obstacle gave way. His work, accordingly, soon attracted general admiration, and obtained a wide circulation, not only in this country, but over the continent. It was translated into German, and is enumerated by Eichhorn among the most valuable materials for the African part of his learned work, entitled "History of the Three Last Centuries." It was only to be regretted that his plan was too contracted; and he himself, sensible of the defect, had undertaken a new edition of his work on a more extended scale, to embrace the whole continent. His departure for India prevented the completion of this design: the task devolved upon Mr Murray, by whom the plan has been still farther extended, so as not only to include the whole of Africa, but to trace the progress of discovery from the earliest ages; and the ability with which he has accomplished this arduous undertaking leaves the public no room to regret that it has fallen into his hands. If Mr Murray's pages do not glow with the same animated eloquence as those of his illustrious predecessor, they never fail to please us by perspicuity of narrative, and elegance of style. If he do not, with the same kindred enthusiasm, identify himself with the traveller whose adventures he is relating,—he relates them with at least a warmth of interest in which his readers very readily sympathize. If his reflections do not always indicate the same comprehensive grasp of mind, they indicate at least a judgment clear, correct, and perfectly well-informed. His work is a most valuable accession to our geographical knowledge, and, if we may decide from the pleasure and information which it has imparted to ourselves, we do not hesitate to pronounce it one of the most agreeable and instructive collections of adventures and discoveries which have, for many years, been presented to the public.

"It was his original wish," Mr Murray informs us, "to preserve the portion of the narrative composed by Dr Leyden distinct from the additions made to it. On considering, however, the general enlargement which it was necessary to give to the work, it appeared that such a plan would have broken down entirely its unity and connection. It seemed of more importance to the public, to receive a distinctly arranged view of the subject, than to be able to distinguish, at a glance, the contributions of its respective authors. There appeared a necessity, therefore, for taking down, as it were, the parts of Dr Leyden's performance, and arranging them anew in the more comprehensive plan which is now adopted." In this Mr Murray certainly acted judiciously; at the same time, to gratify the curiosity of his readers, he subjoins a

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list, by which they are enabled to trace at once the parts of the work which were composed by Dr Leyden. In the two introductory chapters, Mr Murray traces the progress of discovery in Africa from the earliest ages to the commencement of maritime enterprise in modern Europe. In the first book he follows the progress of modern discovery in the interior; including under this head those parts of the coast by which attempts to penetrate inward have been chiefly made,—as Congo, and the banks of the Senegal, and Gambia. The second book exhibits the discoveries in the maritime countries, beginning with Abyssinia, the chief native power, and making thence the circuit of Africa. The third book, which we consider as peculiarly curious and valuable, is occupied with geographical illustrations and views of the present state of Africa. The author judiciously refrains from indulging in conjectures, which the discoveries of a few years would probably supersede; and rather chooses to exhibit, as a branch of the history of science, a view of the progress of speculation and inquiry relative to this continent from the earliest ages. To this part of the work Professor Jameson has contributed a general view of the natural history of Africa, the importance of which cannot fail to be generally recognised. To this book, likewise, are attached historical maps, intended to exhibit the general ideas entertained by geographical inquirers, at these successive periods, of the form and constituent parts of the African continent. The appendix contains translations of some scarce and curious passages of the early geographers, relating to central Africa, which, though often referred to, are seldom accessible to the general reader. For the use of those who may wish to prosecute farther their researches regarding this continent, he has annexed a list of the best works which illustrate its geography. Such is the outline of Mr Murray's plan; into its details we would now gladly enter, but as the space which we could afford to them would be altogether inadequate to their importance, we must deny ourselves that pleasure till our next Number.

ANALYTICAL NOTICES.

Supplement to the Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. II. Part II.

The present half-volume yields to none of its predecessors, either in the importance of its subjects, or the ability with which they are treated. Even the minor articles of geography and biography evince, in general, considerable extent of research, and skill in condensation and arrangement, and the leading articles fulfil, in their execution, the expectations which the eminent names annexed to them naturally excited.

The first subject of importance which occurs in this Part, is Bibliography, a branch of knowledge, which, as the author well observes, would be more correctly designated by the word *Bibliology*. The term originally denoted skill in the perusing and judging of ancient manuscripts, but is now appropriated to the knowledge of books, in reference to their constituent parts, their editions, and different degrees of rareness, their subjects and classes. The importance of Bibliography is very correctly estimated by the author of this article. While he renounces the extravagant pretensions of some of the French Bibliographers, who represent it as the most extensive and universal of all the sciences; he shews, by an enumeration of its chief objects, that it embraces many curious as well as interesting subjects of inquiry, and is calculated to afford very useful aid to every other species of intellectual occupation. The business of the bibliographer he states to be, to trace the history of books in regard to their forms and all other constituents, and, consequently, to trace the beginnings and progress of typography; to mark the differences of editions, and to indicate that edition of every book, which is esteemed the most correct

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and valuable; in the case of books published anonymously, or under feigned names, to assign those names, which the discoveries of literary history may have brought to light; to collect all remarkable facts attaching to the history of books,—such as the number of their editions, their rareness, their having been condemned to the flames, or suppressed, and to furnish catalogues of the books which have appeared in the various branches of knowledge. The plan which he proposes is, to point out the progress and best sources of information in regard to all those departments of Bibliographical knowledge; and in conformity with this plan, he divides the subject into the following heads: 1. Of the constituent parts of books, and the differences of editions; 2. Of early printed books; 3. Of rare books; 4. Of the classics; Of anonymous and pseudonymous books; 6. Of condemned and prohibited books; 7. Of bibliographical dictionaries and catalogues; 8. Of the classification of books; 9. Of Bibliography in general. Under these heads the author displays an accurate and extensive acquaintance with his subject, and communicates much information, particularly with respect to the books proper to be consulted in the various departments of Bibliography, which cannot fail to be extremely useful to those who wish to pursue this curious line of inquiry. In treating of the first head, the author has refrained, perhaps too scrupulously, from entering into any detail in regard to the various substances used for writing, before the important art of making paper from linen rags had been discovered. He has rendered, however, a greater service to the student of Bibliography, by referring him to the most approved works on this branch of the subject, viz. Horne's *Introduction to Bibliography; Nouveau Traité de Diplomatique*, Tom. I.; and Mr Peignot's *Essai sur l'histoire du Parchemin, et du Velin*, in the introduction to which is given a complete list of separate works on this subject. He next adverts to the different kinds of writing peculiar to different ages; and on this interesting branch of Bibliography, the books which he recommends are the Nouveau Traité mentioned above, and, in particular, Astle's *Origin and Progress of Writing*. The office of *Transcribers*, persons employed to copy books before the invention of printing, next claims attention, and the evils which arose out of their ignorance and carelessness. Petrarch, who flourished in the fourteenth century, complains of these evils in the following remarkable terms:—"How shall we find a remedy for those mischiefs which the ignorance and inattention of the copyists inflict upon us? It is wholly owing to these causes that many men of genius keep their most valuable pieces unpublished, so that they never see the light. Were Cicero, Livy, or Pliny, to rise from the dead, they would scarcely be able to recognise their own writings. In every page they would have occasion to exclaim against the ignorance and the corruptions of these barbarous transcribers." On the invention of printing, these copyists were naturally alarmed by an art which threatened to deprive them of employment, and they endeavoured to obtain from their respective governments the exclusive privilege of multiplying copies of books: but the new art was too evidently beneficial to the interests of literature to be repressed by their machinations.

The obscurity which hangs over the inventor of this admirable art, and over the place of its origin, is one of the most curious facts in the history of Bibliography. Numberless discussions have taken place on this subject, and the public opinion is still undecided. Were the question to be determined by numbers, the laurel must be placed on the brow of Guttenberg of Mentz; though champions of great ability maintain very keenly the pretensions of Lawrence Coster of Haerlem. Declining to give an opinion in a case of so much uncertainty, our author contents himself with referring to the following works in which the question is agitated:—Mallinkrot, *De ortu et progressu artis Typographicæ*, published in 1640; Daunou's Analysis of the various opinions on this subject, published in the fourth volume of the Memoirs of the Moral and Political Class of the French Institute; *Monumenta Typographica* of Wolfius; Meerman's *Origines Typographicæ*; Prosper Marchand *Histoire de l'origine et des premiers progres de l'Imprimerie*; a Supplement to which was published by *Mercier*,

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Abbé de St Leger; Lambinet's *Recherches, historiques, litteraires, et critiques sur l'Origine de l'Imprimerie;* M. Serna Santander's *Essai Historique*, prefixed to his *Dictionnaire Bibliographique;* Lichtenberger's *Initia Typographica;* and Ottley's *Inquiry into the Origin and Early History of Engraving.*

The establishment and progress of printing, in particular countries and places, is likewise an object of curiosity to the Bibliographer. The books which our author recommends on this subject are Ames's *Typographical Antiquities*, which contains memoirs of the early English printers, with a register of their publications from 1471 to 1600. It was first published in 1749, in one volume quarto; a second edition, enlarged by Mr Herbert to three volumes quarto, appeared in 1790; and a third, illustrated with superb embellishments, and containing some valuable additions by Mr Dibdin, is now in course of publication. For an account of the typographical histories of France, Germany, and Italy, we are referred to Peignot's *Repertoire Bibliographique Universel.*

The next thing mentioned, as requisite to the Bibliographer, is a knowledge of the different classes and bodies of letters used by printers, and of the corresponding appellations assigned to the different bodies by printers of different countries. The books recommended on these points are Stower's *Printer's Grammar*, and Fournier's *Manuel Typographique.*

In treating of the forms of books, our author very briefly adverts to the method practised among the ancients, of rolling up their books on a cylinder of wood, to the ends of which nobs or balls were affixed, often richly ornamented. In the present article, the attention of the author is chiefly directed to the various forms in which books have appeared since the origin of printing; from an imperfect knowledge of which, essential errors have arisen with regard to particular editions. The circumstance from which these mistakes generally proceed is, that different sizes of paper are comprehended under the same name. A test is afforded by the water-lines in the sheets, as, in folio and octavo sizes, they are uniformly perpendicular, and horizontal in quartos and duodecimos. Some useful remarks are given with regard to the particulars which may give one edition of a book a preference to another.

Under the second head, a description is given of the books which, in the first rude efforts at printing, were impressed with solid wooden blocks. The *editio princeps* of the Bible, printed at Mentz between the years 1450-55, was the first book of any considerable magnitude, printed with moveable metallic types. On the subject of early printed books, the following works are recommended: Laire's *Index librorum ab inventa typographia ad annum 1500, cum notis;* Santander's *Dictionnaire Bibliographique choisi du quinzieme siecle; Bibliotheca Spenceriana*, a descriptive catalogue of the books published in the fifteenth century in the library of Earl Spencer, by Dibdin; Maittaire's *Annales Typographici ab Artis inventæ origine; Annales Typographici ab Artis inventæ origine, ad annum 1500, post Maittaire, Denisii, aliorumque emendati, et Aucti; Operâ S. W. Pauzer.* We regret that our limits will not permit us to follow the learned author through the instructive details into which he enters on the remaining branches of his subject.

Upon the whole, we consider this as the most judicious and enlightened treatise that we have had the good fortune to meet with on the subject of Bibliography.

The article BILLS OF MORTALITY displays a perfect knowledge of the subject. The author, Mr Joshua Milne, Actuary to the Sun Life Assurance Society, has already distinguished himself by his masterly *Treatise on Annuities and Assurances*, and his situation and habits of inquiry furnish the best security for the correctness of his views, and the accuracy of his information on the subject of the present article. The plan which he lays down, and which he follows out with great ability, is, "to give a brief history of the principal things that have been done in this way;—to notice some of the principal mortuary registers, and enumerations of the people;—to point out some of the principal defects in most of the published registers and enumerations;—and lastly, to submit some forms, according to which, if enumerations be made, and registers kept, they will be easily

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convertible to useful purposes." The conclusion of the article, which contains these terms, we would recommend as particularly worthy the attention of all, who, either from interest or curiosity, are desirous of obtaining regular data for determining the law of human mortality.

Under the article BLASTING will be found a minute and accurate account of the method employed by quarriers and miners in blasting asunder rocks by the force of gunpowder. We are happy to observe, that the author, whose opportunities of observation are such as few individuals can boast, recommends the practice of wadding with sand as equally efficient with the common method, while it exposes the workmen to much less personal risk.

The articles BLEACHING, BREWING, and BRICK-MAKING, are contributed by a gentleman, who, if he has been excelled by another chemist in the brilliancy and success of his experiments, is second to none in a profound knowledge of chemical science; while his extensive attainments would have raised him to eminence in any department of philosophy or literature. The departure of this gentleman from Edinburgh we have ever regretted as a serious loss to the lovers of science in this city; though we trust it has been of advantage to himself—as, by extending his labours over a wider sphere, it has materially advanced the general interests of learning. Of his indefatigable exertions in the pursuit of truth, we have two very remarkable instances towards the commencement of the article BLEACHING. Mr Parkes, in his essay on Bleaching, (*Chemical Essays, Vol. IV.*) affirms, that it is stated by Theophrastus, that lime was used by the ancients in bleaching; and that a ship, partly loaded with linen, and partly with water for bleaching it, was destroyed by the accidental access of water to the lime. "We endeavoured, with some pains," says Dr Thomson, "to verify this quotation; and for this purpose, turned over all the writings of Theophrastus with which we are acquainted, without being able to find any thing bearing the least allusion to it. We have doubts whether lime could be employed as a detergent of linen, without injuring the texture of the cloth, and, on that account, it would have gratified us exceedingly to have found such a statement in so respectable and correct a writer as Theophrastus." It is well known that the first important improvement made in the process of bleaching in this country, was the substitution of water, acidulated with sulphuric acid, in place of the buttermilk previously employed. Some years after, in consequence of the experiments which had been made by Scheele on manganese, mixed with muriatic acid, a new modification of that acid was discovered, which possessed the property of destroying vegetable colours. To this substance, Scheele gave the name of dephlogisticated muriatic acid. Berthollet, who, in 1785, repeated the experiments of Scheele, discovered that this substance was a compound of muriatic acid and oxygen. He, therefore, gave it the name of oxygenated muriatic acid, which was afterwards shortened into oxymuriatic acid, the appellation by which it is still known among bleachers. Its property of destroying vegetable colours led Berthollet to suspect that this acid might be introduced with advantage into the art of bleaching, the process of which it would greatly shorten. In April 1785, he read a paper on this acid before the Academy of Sciences at Paris, in which he mentions, that he had tried the effect of the acid in bleaching cloth, and found that it answered completely. The following year, he exhibited the experiment before Mr Watt, who, on returning to England, commenced a practical examination on the subject, and was, accordingly, the person who first introduced the new method of bleaching into Great Britain. Yet Mr Parkes, in the essay before mentioned, states, that in the early part of the year 1787, Professor Copland of Aberdeen accompanied the present Duke of Gordon to Geneva, and was shown by M. de Saussure the dissolving property of oxymuriatic acid. Struck with the importance of the experiment, Mr Copland, on his return to Aberdeen, in July 1787, repeated it before some eminent bleachers in his neighbourhood. These gentlemen were Messrs Mylne, of the house of Gordon, Barron, and Company, Aberdeen. They immediately began the application of the process to the

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bleaching of linen on a great scale; and Mr Parkes assures us, that they were the first persons. To be enabled to decide with certainty on these rival claims, Dr Thomson applied to Mr Watt himself. Fortunately, that gentleman had preserved copies of all his letters since 1782, taken by means of his copying machine. Dr Thomson being allowed to peruse all such as bore any reference to the subject in question, found two which set the matter at rest. The one, dated March 10, 1787, is to his father-in-law, Mr Macgregor, and contains a particular detail of the new bleaching process, states its advantages, and says that he had sent to Mr Macgregor a quantity of the whitening liquor. In the other, addressed to Berthollet, and dated May 9, 1787, he mentioned the proportion of acid and alkali which he employed, and the process which he followed in preparing the cloth. As the date of both these letters is some months prior to Mr Copland's return from the Continent, it is clear that Saussure has no claim to the original discovery, nor Mr Copland to the first introduction of the new process into Great Britain.

These two instances may serve to prove Dr Thomson's industry in collecting facts for the purpose of ascertaining the truth; indeed, it is impossible to conceive any thing more truly philosophical than the spirit with which all his investigations are conducted. We cannot now follow him through this and the other articles which bear his signature, but must content ourselves with giving a hasty sketch of the plan which he pursues in each. In the commencement of the article *Bleaching*, he states that his business is merely to supply the defects of the article in the *Encyclopædia*. These are chiefly two; 1. A very incomplete historical detail of the improvements in bleaching, at least as far as this country is concerned. 2. The omission of any description of the present mode of bleaching, as practised by the most enlightened manufacturers of Great Britain. After a very clear account of the progress of the new method of bleaching in this country, Dr Thomson mentions the ingredients from which the oxymuriatic acid is obtained, and the proportions of these ingredients recommended by different persons. The proportions which he himself recommends as the most economical and advantageous are, 2 parts sulphuric acid, 2 parts water, 1 part common salt, and 1 part black oxide of manganese. He next proceeds to describe the present methods employed in the bleaching of linen, the bleaching of cotton, and the bleaching of rags for the papermaker; for all of which we must refer our readers to the article itself, which will fully satisfy their curiosity.

The article Brewing we consider particularly valuable; it is indeed the only satisfactory account of that important account, which has hitherto been published. The author divides it into five chapters. In the first he gives a short history of the art; in the second he gives an account of the different kinds of grain employed in brewing, and terminates the chapter by a table, exhibiting the most remarkable properties of a considerable number of specimens of British barley and big, as determined by his own observations; in the third he treats of the process of malting,—and to this chapter likewise he subjoins two valuable tables, which exhibit, in one view, the result of a considerable number of trials which he made on malting different varieties of grain; in the fourth chapter he treats of brewing,—terminating this chapter too with a table, exhibiting the results obtained by brewing with malt made from a considerable number of different varieties of barley and big; in the fifth chapter he gives an account of the nature and properties of the different kinds of ale and beer manufactured by the brewer,—here, again, we are presented with a table, exhibiting the quantity of porter brewed by the thirteen principal houses in London during the last nine years, and thus giving an accurate conception of the extent to which the porter trade is carried on in the metropolis. The explanation of plates subjoined to the whole contains a description of the vessels used in a London porter brewery.

In the article Brick-making, he begins, as usual, with a short history of the art; he then mentions the nature and kinds of clay employed; next the preparation of the clay and formation of the brick; then the burning. Under the last head, he

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informs us, that he saw, at some of the iron founderies in Sweden, furnaces constructed of the scoriæ cast into bricks, which answered fully better than common bricks. "It would be easy," says he, "to make any quantity of such bricks in some of the large iron founderies of Great Britain. We are persuaded that such bricks might be brought into use for a variety of purposes, with great advantage, and might even constitute a lucrative article of manufacture. Bricks made from the scoriæ of iron and copper founderies, would vie in beauty with marble and porphyry, and would possess a smoothness of surface, and a lustre, to which few marbles could reach." This hint, we trust, will not be neglected.

The articles BLOCKADE, BLOCK-MACHINERY, BLOW-PIPE, BLOWING-MACHINES, and BORING, will be found to give very able and satisfactory accounts of their respective subjects. These, however, we cannot now stop to notice. We hasten to give some account of the article BOTANY, communicated by the learned president of the Linnæan Society. It is difficult to say whether it is more valuable for the important information which it communicates, or pleasing from the graceful style in which that information is conveyed. In the fourth volume of the *Encyclopædia*, a general view had been given of the celebrated system of Linnæus, including the generic characters, as well as some of the specific differences of most plants then discovered, with their qualities and uses. The supplementary article exhibits a view of the subject more adapted to the progress and present state of the science. Within the last thirty years, botany has been so generally and so ardently cultivated, that it has been elevated from a dry systematic detail of classification and nomenclature, into a philosophical and practical study. How much the able author of this article has contributed to so important a change, is known to all who are in any degree conversant with the recent history of botany. Of the plan which he proposes to himself in the present short but masterly treatise, we dare not attempt an account in any other words than his own. "The different modes in which different nations or schools have cultivated this science, the circumstances which have led some botanists to the investigation of certain subjects more than others, and the particular success of each, may prove amusing and instructive objects of contemplation. In this detail, the history of scientific botany will appear under a new aspect, as rather an account of what is doing, than what is accomplished. The more abstruse principles of classification will be canvassed, and the attention of the student may incidentally be recalled to such as have been neglected, or not sufficiently understood. The natural and artificial methods of classification having been, contrary to the wise intention of the great man who first distinguished them from each other, placed in opposition, and set at variance, it becomes necessary to investigate the pretensions of each. The natural method of Linnæus may thus be compared with his artificial one; and, as the competitors of the latter have long ceased to be more than objects of mere curiosity, we shall have occasion to shew how much the rivals of the former are indebted to both In the progress of this inquiry, the writer, who has lived and studied among the chief of these botanical polemics, during a great part of their progress, may occasionally find a clue for his guidance, which their own works would not supply. No one can more esteem their talents, their zeal, and the personal merits of the greater part, than the author of these pages; but no one is more independent of theoretical opinions, or less dazzled by their splendour, even when they do not, as is too often the case, prove adverse to the discovery of truth. Nor is he less anxious to avoid personal partiality. *Incorruptam fidem professis, nec amore quisquam, et sine odio, dicendus est.*"

In the very limited sketch to which, in notices of this kind, we must necessarily confine ourselves, we can impart to our reader but a faint idea of the delight with which we have accompanied our author, while, in pursuance of this plan, he has traced, with equal erudition and judgment, the causes which paved the way for the general reception of the Linnæan system, and the various improvements for which the science is indebted to the labours of subsequent cultivators; and the adventitious circumstances,

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which render botany almost a different sort of study in different parts of the habitable globe. We were about to attempt an analysis of this admirable article, but soon discovered that it was quite impossible to do it any justice, without transcribing almost the whole. So valuable are the observations of this distinguished writer, that we cannot make a selection without perplexity, and without regret for omitting what seems equally entitled to be quoted; while his style is already so concise, though flowing, and his materials so compactly arranged, as nearly to defy all farther condensation. But whoever wishes to obtain a clear and comprehensive view of the recent history of Botany,—of the comparative merits of its improvers, and of the schools in which it has been cultivated,—will derive much satisfaction from the perusal of this treatise;—in which, not the least interesting object is the author himself,—looking round in calm enlightened review on the wide field in which he himself has laboured with such ardour and success,—imparting with impartial and unerring hand to its numerous cultivators their due meed of praise,—correcting their errors,—collecting in a judicious arrangement the results of their several exertions, and removing every obstruction to the perfection of this elegant science.

The article Breakwater, written by Mr Barrow, one of the Secretaries of the Admiralty, contains an interesting account of the repeated attempts made by the French Government to render the port of Cherbourg a safe station for ships of the line by means of a *Breakwater;* that is, an insulated dike of stones so placed as to obstruct and break the waves of the sea, and thus to convert a dangerous anchorage into a safe and commodious harbour. The result of all these attempts, which have been carried on at an enormous expence, is, that at present small spots only of that dike are visible above the surface of the sea at low water of spring-tides, and nowhere do these spots exceed three feet in height; the intermediate spaces are from 3 to 15 feet below the surface; and, taking the average, the whole dike, from one end to the other, may be about four feet below the surface of low water at the spring-tides. It is sufficiently high, however, to break the force of the waves, and to make the port of Cherbourg, in some winds, a safe anchorage for about 40 sail of the line. One of the grandest of Bonaparte's magnificent projects, was to establish a large dock-yard at Cherbourg, not merely for repairing, but also for constructing ships of war of the largest class; to dig a basin capable of containing 50 or 60 sail of the line; to construct dry-docks and slips for building and repairing, and to make it a naval port of the first rank. The basin was completed in 1813, at the expence of L. 3,000,000 Sterling. A wet-dock of the same magnitude, communicating with it, was then commenced, and is now in progress. The Breakwater in Plymouth Sound is constructed on sounder principles than that of Cherbourg, with less machinery, and fewer people. Compared in extent and dimensions with that of Cherbourg, it is only in the ratio of about one to four. This great national undertaking was first projected in 1806, at the suggestion of Lord St Vincent, but was strangely neglected till Mr Yorke was called to preside at the Board of Admiralty. The first stone of this great work was laid on the 12th August 1812; and on the 31st March 1813, the Breakwater made its first appearance above the surface of the Sound, at low water of the spring-tide. The total expence of this grand undertaking was originally estimated at L. 1,171,100,—the total sum expended, up to the 12th August 1816, was L. 364,000; and as the work may be considered as more than half completed, it will be finished considerably within the original estimate. To those who know the importance of Plymouth harbour, as a station for watching the enemy's fleet at Brest, and at the same time its insecurity as an anchorage for ships of the line, from its exposed situation, and the heavy swell that almost constantly rolled in, especially when the wind blew fresh from the south-west to south-east, it must be gratifying to learn, that its good effects have already equalled the most sanguine expectations.

The article Bridge exhibits an admirable view of the scientific and practical principles on which the structure of bridges depends. It is divided into the two heads of physico-mathematical principles, subservient to the

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theory of this department of architecture, and a historical account of the works either actually executed or projected, which appear to be the most deserving of notice. The first head is branched out into three sections, relating, 1. To the resistance of materials; 2. To the equilibrium of arches; and, 3. To the effects of friction. The second likewise consists of three sections, comprehending some details of early history and literature, an account of the discussions which have taken place respecting the improvements of the port of London, and a description of some of the most remarkable bridges which have been erected in modern times.

A very interesting account is given of the CALEDONIAN CANAL by Mr Stevenson, Civil Engineer. In the conclusion of the article he gives the following statement with regard to the probable advantages of this grand national object, which cannot fail to be read with general interest and satisfaction. "The writer of this article has repeatedly visited the works of the Caledonian Canal. With regard to the quality of the workmanship, he shall only mention, as a pretty conclusive circumstance with regard to the masonry, that, from end to end of this great work, he has not seen a single *set* or *shake* in the whole of the locks and walls. Upon the subject of the navigation of a ship in the locks, he cannot speak professionally; but, upon one occasion, he went over the whole line in company with a captain of the royal navy; and, although this officer did not much relish the idea of his ship putting about or tacking with *eddy winds* in these *narrows*, nor of being dragged along by the power of horses, or of steam, yet he had no doubt as to the fitness of the navigation for smaller vessels. Indeed, since the discovery of the Dalswinton steam-dragger, the practicability of this navigation is reduced to a certainty for all vessels which can pass the canal locks. And thus we have the firmest conviction, that the Caledonian Canal will, in the end, be universally viewed as a truly great and noble undertaking, issuing in the most solid benefits to the country."

The articles CALENDERING and CARPENTRY would also demand our attention; but the consideration of these we must at present omit, and pass on to the learned and able disquisition on the Indian CASTES.

The ingenious author, who has long been engaged in a history of the East Indies, to which the public are now looking forward with anxious expectation, proves, with a profusion of learning, that the institution of *castes* was, in the early ages of society, very widely diffused among the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Cretans, the Persians, the Medes, (probably) the ancient Saxons, and the ancient inhabitants of Peru and Mexico. He next gives a very philosophical view of the state and condition of the human mind to which this institution may be considered as owing its origin. He then enters into a detailed account of the Indian castes, and concludes with a general view of the effects of this institution. These effects he proves to be decidedly unfavourable to the interests of the human race, first, As they present an irresistible barrier to human advancement in the two grand instruments of progression,—the division of labour and the practice of new arts, as invention may suggest them, or the multiplying desires of an improving society may create the demand; secondly, As, by establishing a monopoly even of the arts which are known, they, in a manner, shut the door against all competition, and thus cramp the exertions of genius; thirdly, Since, by confining the prosecution of knowledge and literature to one class of the community, it renders it the interest of that class to perpetuate ignorance among the rest, that they may be able to turn and wind them according to their own purposes; and, lastly, Since, by preventing the distribution of the supernumerary members of a caste through the other departments of industry and subsistence, it magnifies and multiplies, to an incalculable degree, the evils of a superfluous population.

From this imperfect analysis of the leading articles in the last published Part of the *Supplement*, it will easily be perceived how rich it is in talent and in science. The selection of contributors must ever insure excellence, and does much credit to the editor's discernment.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE MINSTREL'S VISION.

Or, the Isle of Eyra.

(A Fragment.)

I.

O LIST, fair ladye! while I tell
Of visions rais'd by magic spell;
And gentle were the sprites that shed
Their influence o'er my slumbering head;
Was waking mortal ne'er so blest—
Then lovely Eyra, "list, O list!"—
—Methought a nymph of heavenly raien,
Whose garb bespoke the Fairy Queen,
Sudden appear'd—and with a smile
Might well the wariest heart beguile,
Wav'd thrice on high her magic wand,
And beckon'd me to Fairyland:—
Who could resist the charming Elf?
She seem'd the while thy lovely self!

II.

Then seated in her silver car,
We lightly flew o'er realms afar,
Where rocky mountains bleak arose,
With Alpine lakes and endless snows;
Or sandy deserts scorch'd and dun,
Stretch'd boundless 'neath a fiery sun.—
—Her fair hand guides the magic rein,
While merrily o'er mount and plain,
And over Ocean's trackless tides,
Our swift car like a comet glides;
Till Phœbus in the western wave
Sought sea-born Thetis' coral cave;
And Hesper o'er the slumbering deep
Arose his silent watch to keep.

III.

At length we reach her lonely grot
Placed in enchanted isle remote;
Whose mountains rear their summits bold
From sombre shade of forests old;
And streamlets flow with lulling sound
Through shelter'd vallies opening round;
And vines and breathing myrtles spread
Their verdant canopy o'erhead;
And zephyrs curl with sportive wing
The silken tresses of the spring.

* * * * *

V.

The sun had sunk—but his steps of light
Might yet be traced in the western sky,
Where the moveless clouds of amber bright,
In soft confusion lye;
And the eye might picture isles of bliss
In those azure deeps reposing,
All silent and serene as this
Round which the night was closing.—
—And, oh, how sweet in this lovely isle
It seem'd, to live along with Thee,
When summer skies for ever smile,
And sighing gales just stir the sea;
Where the murmuring tide so meekly laves,
The sandy beach and shelving caves;
And happy genii seem to dwell
Along each cliff embattled dell—
How sweet through fairy glades to walk
With thee in softly "whisper'd talk,"
What time the hermit nightingale
Awakes the mazy moonlight vale;
Or from the mountain's cliffy steep
View circling oceans round us swelling,
Without a wish to cross the deep,
Or leave our lone and lovely dwelling!—

* * * * * * * E.

THE CELESTIALL VESTALLIS.

[The following fragments have been sent us as "Specimens—faithfully transcribed from the original MS.—of a very ancient METRICAL ROMAUNT, lately discovered in the ruins of Roxburgh Castle."—In regard to their poetical merit, we do not ourselves attempt at present to hazard any opinion, nor do we profess to understand very clearly the drift of the legend or allegory which they introduce to us; but, as the interest of the story may be reasonably expected to increase as it proceeds, and as the stanzas now given seem tolerably fair as to Rhyme, Euphony, and Unintelligibility, it is humbly presumed (especially in an age when such qualities have formed the chief or sole distinction of many famous works) that they may bespeak a favourable reception from the public for the remainder of the "POEME," with which our learned correspondent has obligingly offered to furnish us, in such portions as we may require, and with as much celerity as the great difficulty of decypherring the very cramp and decayed original will permit.]

HEIR BEGINNIS
ANE ALLEGORICALL & PROPHETICALL
Poeme,
IN FYVE HUNDRETH CANTOES;
INTITULLIT
The Celestiall Vestallis;
YNVENTIT
BE YAT FAMEQUS SEER AND ILLUSTER
MYNSTREL,
Merlin of Caledonia,
COMMOUNLIE CALLIT MERLYN Y^e
WYLDE.
ANNO DNI. V^c. lxv. (565.)

REVYSIT & TRANSLATIT INTO Y^e MAIR
MODERNE TOUNG,
By Thomas ye Rymour,
OF ERCILDOUNE, KNYT.
ANNO DNI I^m. ijc. lxxiij. (1273.)

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The Translatour to ye Reidar.

Quhen we hade sene & considerit ye divers transcriptiounis of yis notabill Werke set furth of auld amangis ourselfis, to haue bene altogider faultie ande corrupt; and alsua yat ye originall style hath become obsolite ande hard to be vnderstood be ye vnlearnit ande sik as bee of slender capacitie; wee haue thocht gude to collate ande recompyle ye haill treatise from ye maist auncient copyis in the French Kingis librarie, in ye famous citie of Paris; ande haue taken some peines and travellis to haue ye samyn correctlie translatit ande mair commodiouslie set furth: to the intent yat ye benevolent Reidar may haue the mair delyte and plesure in reading, ande ye mair frute in perusing yis pleasand ande delectable werke.

Att Ercildoune,
xij Maij Anno Dni. Im. ijc. lxxiij.

Cantoe First.

i.

Quhylome by sylvane Tiviote's hauntit tyde,
Quhilk wendis translucentlye ye medes alonge,
Quhair dreming bardis ande drousye shepherdis glyde
Ye daisied feildis and shadowye hillis amonge,
Duellit ye Celestiall Maydenis of my songe;
Of loftye porte, I weene, zet presence swete,
And swete ye sylvere accentis of thair toung:
Ah! quhile yai trode oure bankis wt hallowit feet,
All gentill spirites smyllit ande happye starres did greite.

ij.

Yai wer ye wonder of ye village tale:—
On sommer eves quhen toyle wes swetely o're,
Or brymye nychtis quhen brathlye tempestis wayle,
Ye rustickis talkit of yem for evirmore;
Quhairas of ghostis yai aye did talke before:
Ne did yai view withouten mutterit prayre
Yair fairye formis y-cladde in vestment hoare;
Ne erflye lystnit quhen from wodelande fayre
Yair vespyr songe wes hymnit thro ye dewye ayre.

iij.

In yut lone place quhair wyndis ane deep ravine,
Beduellit wt martyris in ye troublous dayes,
Yair is ane cave piercent ye mountaine,—grene
Wt lyvelie birk and bourtries hallowit sprayes,
Quhair latentlye yai wonne lyk desert fayes.
Ne will I saye yai never thocht of luve,
Ne unswares mot yield to soft uphrayes,
Quhen tasselit knycht strove yair coye hertes to muve,
Or mynstrel moanyng wylde in som secludit grove.

* * * * * *

v.

Bot butes itt nocht iff pitye yai had felte,
Sith suche to knycht or bard yai nere did showe;
Yea, thoch for luve-lorne wycht yair herte mot melt,
On him nathlessse yai gloumd lyke dedelye foe;
And aye wt angrye voice yai bade him Goe!
Quhyle, hee (alack!) so piteously wolde kneele—
Vowing yair breste wes colde as Cheviotte snowe—
Yen gainst his herte wolde point his peircyng steele,
And swere, iff still yair cruell toung said No,
His wanne and wailing spright solde haunt yaim to and fro!

* * * * *

(Hiatus in MS.)

Cantoe Seconde.

"Sa dulce, sa sweit, and sa melodious,
That euerie nycht yairwith mycht be joyous,
Bot I ane catiue dullit in dispair;
For quhen a man is wraith or furious,
Melancholick for woe or tedious,
Than till him is all plesance maist contrair,
And semblablie than sa did wt zoung Hoel fare."

i.

Farre ovir Eildoune clossit ye autumnall daye,
Ande battis and bogyllis fro yair holes gan crepe;
Quhyle Tiviott, thro ane ridge of vapouris greye,
Wt sadde ande sullyn sounde wes harde to sweepe,
Ande birdis ande beastis ande men wer sunk in sleepe
As haplesse Hoel sought ye riveris side,
And flung his famishit forme aleng ye steepe,
Quhoise bosky cliftis hung tuftit owre ye tyde;
On former joys ande griefis his fancye roving wyde.

ij.

"Ah! cruelle Rosalynde!" ye youthe beganne,
"Quhoise rigour dryves mee to vntymelye dome,
"Relentlesse Mayd . . vnhappye man!
. . . . . watrye tombe!"

(Alter hiatus lachrymabilis.)

iiij.

Quhyle zitt hee spake ye moone in radiance brycht
Abone ye southland hillis her horne displayd,

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Ande, halfe-emergent from ye cloude of nycht,
Appestit ye mountaine hoare ande shadowye glade;
Ane swete ande solemne pause ye west-winde maide;
Nycht in ye welkyn burnt yk blessed starre;
Celestiall odouris breathit thro ye shade;
Y^e riviris murmur dyed alonge ye skaur;
Quhyle midnychtis long long chyme tollit fayrflye frome afarre.

liiij.

Yan en ye listenyng nycht wylde musicke broke,
Quhether in earthe or ayre hee mot mocht guesse,
Bot seemd as iff some blessed spirit woke
Ane strayne to soothe ye herte ill passionis presse;
Ande aye itt fell see fraught w^t blessednesse,
Yat Hoel * * * * *

lix.

"Yai sate reposyng in yis fayre retreate,
Fanned by ye fragraunte zephyris as yai flew;
Ane chrystalle fountaine wellit att yair feete,
Ande juicey apples hung of golden hew.
Quhyle thro ye clusteryng boughis intransit I viewe
Yai tune w^t touche eamone ye organne deepe,
Quhoise solemne straynes made all my spritte to grue;
Anon ye harpe soe witchyngly yai sweepe,
Yat as yai lyste I smyle or w^t fonde rapture weepe."

* * * * * * *

lxiij.

"Zitt mid yis luvelye bande I coulde espye
Twoe dames yat seemd yair sisteris grace to lacke:
Y^e first, intend for faltis ande flaws to prye,
Turnit hir sharpe jetty eyn lyk watchfull lawke;
Hir lockis were lyk ye raven pinion blacke,
Ande ruddye wes hir ripenit cheeke, I wis,
Bot och! hir venomd toungis eternall clacke
Wes dreadfull as ye atheris deadlye hisse;
Ande seemd hir skinnye lippes more fram'd to clippe yan kisse.

lxiij.

"Ye nixt, lyke to ane graven image sate,
(Thoch not, I trow, of Greik or Romane moldie,
Bot suche as Spanish monkis do beare in state
Of Goddesse-Virgin deckt in gemmes ande golde,)
Hir cheeke lyke marble colourlesse ande colde,
Silent she sate w^t fixt ande glassye eye,
Ande seemd y-wrapt in meditationis folde.

* * * * * * *

AN ANSWER TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTION,

What is Love?

[The following is printed from the original MS. of the notorious THOMAS PAINE, signed with his initials, and certified by the subjoined note in the handwriting of Mr HOLCROFT. Whatever may be thought of the intrinsic merit of the verses, they will probably be esteemed a curiosity, as the production of a man by no means deficient in intellectual strength or acuteness, upon a subject more pleasing and innocent than those with which his name is so darkly and inseparably associated.]

TO SIR ROBERT SMYTH.

As I do not attempt to rival your witty description of Love, I will retreat to sentiment, and try if I can match you there; and, that I may start with a fair chance, I will begin with your own question,

What is Love?

'Tis that delightsome transport we can feel
Which painters cannot paint, nor words reveal,
Nor any art we know of can conceal.
Canst thou describe the sun-beams to the blind?
Or make him feel a shadow with his mind?
So neither can we by description show
This first of all felicities below.
When happy Love pours magic o'er the soul,
And'all our thoughts in sweet delirium roll,
When contemplation spreads its rain-bow wings,
And every flutter some new rapture brings,
How sweetly then our moments glide away,
And dreams repeat the transports of the day;
We live in ecstacy, to all things kind,
For Love can teach a moral to the mind.
But are there not some other marks that prove
What is this wonder of the soul called Love?
O yes, there are, but of a different kind,
The dreadful horrors of a dismal mind.
Some jealous Fury throws its poison'd dart,
And rends in pieces the distracted heart.
When Love's a tyrant, and the soul a slave,
No hope remains to thought, but in the grave;
In that dark den, it sees an end to grief,
And what was once its dread, becomes relief.
What are the iron chains the hands have wrought!
The hardest chain to break is made of thought.
Think well of this, ye lovers, and be kind,
Nor play with torture on a tortured mind.*

T. P.

* The above lines are by Thomas Paine, and were given to me at Paris by himself in 1802. T. HOLCROFT.

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

Mr Burkhardt's Narrative of his Discoveries in Africa has at length been put to the press. This gentleman has, for some years, been travelling in the districts to the south of Egypt, under the character of an Arab, and the appellation of Shekh Ibrahim. In this character he was met by Mr Legh, in his travels above the cataracts, so completely disguised, that he could not, unless by his conversation, have been distinguished from an Arab. This gentleman travels under the auspices of the African Association. He is now prosecuting his discoveries, and entertains sanguine hopes of being able to reach Tombuctoo.

Mr C. R. Cockerell having left England in 1810, to pursue his studies as an architect in Greece, visited Constantinople, where he found the oriental architecture, used by the Turks, so interesting, as to engage him fully during three months. In his way from Constantinople to Athens, he visited the Troad, various islands of the Archipelago and Salonica; and, on his arrival there, he had the fortune to meet a society of travellers, Messrs Bronstedt and Koes, who died in Zante, and Messrs Baron Stackelberg and Linckh. With one of these he made a survey of all the monuments of Athens. They undertook to excavate the temple of Jupiter Panhellenius in Ægina; and had the good fortune to discover the statues which formed the compositions enriching the two frontispieces of the school of Ægina. They afterwards succeeded in excavating the Temple of Apollo Epicurius, at Phigaleia, in Arcadia; where they had the gratification of bringing to light the frieze which enriched the interior of the cella, and *which is now deported in the British Museum.* Mr Cockerell's avocations then led him into Asia Minor, where he completed the tour of the seven churches, making many drawings and observations on these remains, and collecting many inscriptions. He visited Priene, Samos, Miletus, and Crete, where he made plans of the labyrinth of Minos. From Rhodes he crossed to Patara, and visited the numerous cities and remains on the coast of Lycia. He then returned with Captain Beaufort to Malta, whence he visited Sicily, and at Agrigentum made a particular examination of the Temple of Jupiter Olympius, or the Temple of the Giants, which was the most considerable of all Grecian antiquity. In a *second* tour in Greece he visited Epirus, Thessaly, and other provinces of continental Greece, and the Ionian Islands. In February 1816, he passed into Apuleo and Naples, where he had the advantage of a six weeks' study of the antiquities of Pompeia; and remained nearly a year at Rome. He afterwards completed his tour of Upper Italy, and has just returned to England by way of Germany and Paris. He has brought with him the result of his researches during seven years and a half, which are very considerable, and in due time is expected to publish an account of his interesting travels and valuable discoveries.

There is at present in Paris a map which exhibits a curious specimen of Chinese Geography.—It was engraved at Pekin during the commencement of the last century, and comprises a great part of northern Asia; namely, the countries situated between the 35 and 55 degrees of latitude, and the 31 and 33 degrees of longitude. It was sold among a collection of charts and astronomical calculations, after the death of the learned astronomer, M. Messier.

It is 14 feet long and 6 wide; the characters to the north of the great wall of China are Tartar Mongol, and those within the wall and towards the south are Chinese. The map was sent from Pekin by some Jesuit missionaries, and in 1720 conveyed to St Petersburgh by M. Lange. Several members of the French Institute have examined it with the greatest interest. It is supposed to be the only specimen of the kind in Europe.

At the suggestion of Mr Hoblyn of Sloane Street, a quantity of cocoa-nut oil has recently been introduced into this country from the island of Ceylon. It has been ascertained, that this oil may be very advantageously employed as a substitute for spermaceti oil, as it is considerably cheaper, burns with a clear bright flame, and is free from smell or smoke. It will be found useful also in the manufacture of soap, candles, and the finer articles of perfumery, and is likely to become a source of great revenue in Ceylon, and of importance to this country. Soap made with it costs about 10 per cent. more than tallow soap.

Dr D. White of Bombay having transmitted a packet, containing the seeds of some scarce and valuable plants, to the Caledonian Horticultural Society, the thanks of the Society were voted to him at a general meeting on the 10th of June.

A stone, adapted to the purposes of lithography, has been lately discovered in East Lothian, on the property of the Right Hon. the Earl of Wemyss and March. Various successful experiments have already been made with it by Mr Ruthven, the ingenious inventor of the patent print-

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ing-press, which has excited such general attention.

Mr George Sinclair, gardener to the Duke of Bedford at Woburn Abbey, states, that the larvæ of the *phalenæ tortrices*, or grubs, are often the cause of blight in fruit trees. Two orchards at Woburn were annually more or less subject to the ravages of these insects, till the following expedient was adopted.—Immediately after the fall of the leaves, a waggon-load of lime was placed in the orchard, and suffered to slake by the weather. Advantage was then taken of the morning dews, to powder every part of the surface of the trees with the lime, while in its most caustic state. This process has been annually repeated with such success, that, since its first adoption, there has been but one partial attack of the insects; and this is attributed to the lime used that season having lost much of its causticity before it was applied, and to a heavy fall of rain immediately after the liming. It is essential that the algæ be removed from the trees previously to the application of the lime, as they not only do injury by closing the pores of the bark, but also form the principal nests where the eggs of the insects are deposited during winter. When these parasitical plants are once displaced, they never recover themselves, if the liming be annually repeated. Seventy bushels of lime, properly applied, will be sufficient for an orchard of five acres, completely stocked with full grown trees.

The President and Council of the *Royal Society of London* have adjudged the gold and silver medals, on Count Rumford's foundation, to Sir H. Davy, for his papers on combustion and flame, published in the last volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*.

Dr Huston has made the highly important remark, that the *nux vomica* is very beneficial in paralysis which follows rheumatic affections, but he considers it as liable to occasional accidents, when the paralysis has succeeded an attack of apoplexy. This distinction ought to make medical men very cautious in the use of this powerful agent.

An animal hitherto unknown here to the European colonist, accompanied by two of its young, was found a fortnight ago at Cox's River, in the newly discovered country, near Sidney, New Holland. From its general conformation, it may be pronounced a species of the Jerboa tribe. Its resemblance is about midway between that of the rabbit and the rat, the ears short and erect, like those of the former, the head longer, like that of the latter, as is also the tail, which is very long, but terminating with a thick fur; the weight of the animal, to all appearance, not exceeding eight or nine ounces.—*Sidney Gazette.*

A curious phenomenon exhibited itself on board a vessel at Sydney, to a party while at supper. On the opening of a rock oyster, the shells of which were forced asunder with much difficulty, a small fish of two inches length, which had been curled up in the place which the native inhabitant of the shell had before occupied, sprung out upon the table, and was preserved alive for some time. Examined in a glass of clear salt water, the little intruder, which had doubtless devoured its host, the oyster, had a beautiful appearance when alive. Its great pliancy when in motion, determines its species to be cartilaginous, while the back and belly, which were ornamented with a series of spines linked together by a transparent silken membrane, and its fine curling tail, displayed the richest beauties to the admiring eye. The creature was itself almost entirely transparent, when interposed between the eye and the sun, and the whole body marked with stripes of brown and yellow, disposed in regular intervals; nor was the head its least curious part, from its being surmounted with a fine crest, resembling the unindented comb of a cock. Many persons have seen it, and all presume it to be a novel species.—*Sidney Gazette.*

Two instances of the extreme virulence and rapidity of animal poison, almost unprecedented in well authenticated narrative, are recorded in the Sidney Gazette, as recent information from the party at Bathurst Plains.—The sudden death of John Wood, a private of the Royal Veteran Company, on duty at that post, was owing to the bite of a snake, *which he survived only a few moments.* The melancholy event took place on the 24th ultimo; the fatal wound was inflicted on the foot, and the deceased putting his hand upon it, had scarcely time to implore the blessing of God, when he fell upon his face, and instantly expired. Putrescence ensued with unexampled rapidity, and in a few hours the body of the deceased became entirely black.—A sheep belonging to Mr Lawson was also bit; it died immediately, and exhibited symptoms of putrescence in a few moments after. One of these snakes was known to advance from beneath a rock to the centre of a road as a man was passing, with the apparent intention of attacking him. They are said to be generally from five to six, or seven feet long, are of a disagreeable dark colour, and have very large heads.

Mr Armiger is engaged in Researches, and in the Collection of Materials for an English work on Physiology, intended to supply an acknowledged deficiency in the elementary books of this country, to exhibit the present state of that important science, and the extent to which it is indebted to the investigation of British physiology.

Mr Sewell, assistant professor at the Veterinary College, has discovered a mode of curing a chronic lameness, to which hunters, chargers, and other valuable horses,

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are liable after any considerable exertion. It consists in dividing the nervous trunk, and extirpating a portion of it, where it enters the foot behind the pastern joint.

A paper, by Dr Leach of the British Museum, has been read to the Royal Society, containing some observations on a new genus of marine animals inhabiting the argonaut and nautilus shells. It was observed by Sir Joseph Banks, that the animal found in these shells is not the fabricator of them, but a parasite which has taken up its occasional abode there when it chooses to shield itself from the direct action of the waves. Sir E. Home also presented a paper somewhat similar, detailing his remarks on the mode and period of generation of the animals found in nautilus and argonaut shells. He found them to be oviparous animals, to be nourished nearly like snails.

Serpent found in Devonshire.—Dr Leach states, that the *red viper*, described by Mr Rackett in a paper read to the Linnæan Society on April 15, is no more than a very common variety of the young viper of Britain. He also says, that *coluber caruleus* of the Linnæan Transactions, *col. prester* and *charsea* of Linnæus, are also varieties of the same species, viz. of *vipera berus*.

The First Number of a New Periodical Work, entitled, "Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia," has just reached this country from America. It contains, 1st, Description of Six new Species of the genus *Firola*, from the Mediterranean, by MM. de Sueur and Peron, with a plate. 2d, An Account of the New Mountain Sheep, *Ovis Montana*, by Mr George Ord; with a wood engraving of the Horn of the Animal. 3d, A Description of Seven American Water and Land Shells, by Mr Thomas Say.

Sir William Herschel, lately created a Hanoverian knight, has communicated a paper to the Royal Society on the system of the scattering of the stars, and on the best mode of dividing them into classes, so as to form a correct and convenient catalogue.

It is found by experiment, that the waters of the Thames, opposite the London Dock gates, are perfectly fresh throughout; at Blackwall, even in spring tides, the water was found to be only slightly saline; at Woolwich the proportion of salt water increases, and so on to Gravesend. From a series of observations made at and below London Bridge, compared with the river as far up as Kew and Oxford, Mr Stevenson, the engineer, is of opinion, that the waters of the Thames seldom change, but are probably carried up and down with the turn of the alternate tides, for an indefinite period, which, he is of opinion, may be one, if not the principal cause of what is termed the extreme softness of the waters of the Thames.

FRANCE.

MM. Gay-Lussac and Arago have published various tables of the dilatation of bodies by heat:—

Substances when raised from the Temperature of Freezing Water to the boiling Heat.

Steel not tempered	.00107915
Steel tempered, and then heated to 150	.00123956
Silver from the cupel	.00190974
Silver, Paris standard	.00190968
Copper	.00171723
Brass	.00187681
Tin from Malacca	.00182765
Tin from Cornwall	.00217298
Hammered iron	.00122045
English flint glass	.00081165
Mercury (in volume)	.01847746
Fine gold	.00148606
Gold, Paris standard, not annealed	.00155155
Gold, Paris standard, annealed	.00151361
Platinum (according to Borda)	.00095655
Lead	.00284836
French crystal glass	.00087190
French crown glass	.00039094
French mirror glass	.00089096

Insects living in a Vacuum.—M. Biot has observed, that the insects called by the French *blaps* and *tenebrions*, may be left in the best vacuum that can be made by an air pump for days, without their appearing to suffer any inconvenience.

New Method of detecting Arsenious Acid, or Corrosive Sublimate, when in Solution.—Take a little recent wheat starch; add to it a sufficient quantity of iodine to give it a blue colour. Mix a little of this blue matter with water, so as to have a blue-coloured liquid. If into this liquid a few drops of an aqueous solution of arsenious acid be put, the blue colour is immediately changed to reddish brown, and is gradually dissipated entirely. The solution of corrosive sublimate produces nearly the same effect; but if some drops of sulphuric acid be added, the blue colour is again restored, if it has been destroyed by arsenious acid; but if it has been destroyed by corrosive sublimate, it is not restored, either by sulphuric acid or by any other acid. (Brugnatelli, Ann. de Chim. et Phys. iv. 334.)

New Analysis of the Meteoric Iron of Siberia.—M. Laugier has lately subjected a specimen of this well known mass of iron to analysis. He found its constituents as follow:—

Oxide of Iron,	69.2
Silica,	16
Magnesia,	15
Sulphur,	5.2
Nickel,	5.2
Chromium,	0.5
Loss,	3
	113.1

The increase of weight is owing to the oxidizement of the metals. This analysis shows us that the constituents of this iron

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are quite the same as those of the meteoric stones. (See Ann. de Chim. et Phys. iv. 388.)

Arragonite.—It will be recollected, that after the discovery of carbonate of strontian by Stromeyer in arragonite, Messrs Buchols and Meissner analyzed twelve specimens from different places; that they found strontian in seven of the twelve, but could detect none in the remaining five. Among these five was the arragonite of Bastenes, which, according to these chemists, contained nothing but carbonate of lime and a little sulphate of lime. Laugier has lately examined a specimen of arragonite from the same place. He found in it traces of carbonate of strontian, though the quantity of that substance present did not exceed the thousandth part of the weight of the specimen. In two other specimens of arragonite, one from Baudissero, near Turin, the other from the county of Gex, he could detect no strontian whatever; but he remarks that these specimens did not exhibit all the characters of arragonite. That of Baudissero, though pretty regularly crystallized, was opaque, and very friable. That from Gex has the vitreous fracture, and the hardness of the best characterized arragonites; but it is massive, and exhibits no appearance of crystallization. In general the purest, most transparent, and most regularly crystallized arragonites, are those which contain the greatest quantity of strontian; while those which are impure, and mixed with sulphate of lime, either contain none, or very little of that substance. (Ann. de Chim. et Phys. iv. 361.)

A stone, adapted to the purposes of lithography, has been discovered in the quarries of Argenteuil. All the stone used in this art in France has hitherto been imported from Bavaria. Burgundy also has lately furnished some specimens, of which a trial is about to be made; but the quarry of Argenteuil seems capable of furnishing an abundant supply, and of the best quality.

GERMANY.

The great anatomical collection of Meckel of Halle is about to be offered for sale. It is only excelled by the magnificent and truly philosophical museum of the late John Hunter. The Meckels did not rest satisfied with mere preparations of parts of the adult human subject: a principal object with them has been to show, in series of preparations, the forms and condition of the various organs and parts of the animal system, from their first appearance to their period of maturity; and this cabinet is also particularly rich in objects of pathological anatomy.

Animal Magnetism is at present in high repute in Germany, as a remedy in the cure of diseases. Many large works and numberless pamphlets have been written on this subject within two or three years, and even hospitals have been established, for the reception of such patients as require the aid of Magnetism.

A periodical work is at present publishing at Altenburg, under the following title: "Archives of Animal Magnetism," by Eschenmayer, Kieser, and Nasse.

Barker, Wolter, and Hendricks, are publishing, in Holland, "Contributions to the Doctrine of Animal Magnetism."

Rohlwes has published, at Hanover, a work on the knowledge and cure of the diseases of wild animals; and the same author has also published a work on veterinary medicine.

Henriette Schubart has lately published, at Altenburg, a translation of Walter Scott's Scottish Ballads and Songs.

A curious book has lately appeared at Copenhagen, under the title, "Historia precipuorum Arabum Regnorum, rerumque ab iis gestorum ante Islamismum e codd. MSS. Arabicis Bibliothecæ Regiæ Slavniensis collegit, vertit, Animadversiones addidit, Dr et Pref. J. L. Rasmussen."

There has just appeared at Vienna a work in 3 vols. 8vo, with 135 folio coloured plates, by Dr Joseph Scherer, entitled, "Tables of the Anatomical Wax Preparations in the Imperial Museum."

Among the effects left by the celebrated Werner, there are several MSS. nearly ready for the press. This great man had printed nothing since 1774. His labours always appeared to him not sufficiently matured; but his instructions are spread over the world by thousands of his scholars. His cabinet of Minerals has become the property of the Mineralogical Academy at Frieberg.

The fifth volume of Professor Hausmann's Mineralogical Travels in Scandinavia has just been published.

ITALY.

Canova has just finished a charming group,—a nymph reposing upon a lion's skin, and a boy playing on a lyre. He is now employed upon a statue of the King of Portugal.

Professor Moxicchini, of Rome, having discovered the magnetising power of the violet rays of the prismatic spectrum, the Marquis Ridolfi has succeeded in magnetising two needles, the one in thirty, the other in forty-six minutes; and can now change with the magnetic power, by the same process, as many needles as he pleases. The needles thus magnetised (namely, by directing on and passing over them, for a period of not less than thirty minutes, the violet rays of the spectrum, through the medium of a condensing lens) possess all the energy and the properties of needles magnetised in the common way by means of a loadstone. Their *homonomous* poles repel, while the

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heteronomous poles attract, each other; and, made to vibrate on a pivot, their points turn constantly to the north, their heads to the south! This adds to the wonders of magnetism, and must be regarded as a very extraordinary discovery.

AMERICA.

The following are at this time the chief, if not the only general periodical journals in the United States:—

The Portfolio, printed at Philadelphia, once a month, but not essentially on the first day; is edited by John E. Hall, Esq. a barrister at law, who is also editor of the American Law Journal. This is the oldest of the American miscellanies, and has always been distinguished for its elegant Belles-Lettres articles, and for much exquisite original poetry.

The Analectic Magazine, published at Philadelphia, monthly, by Moses Thomas; and devoted to the detail of national achievements, and to criticism on English and American books. It exhibits also the state of the arts, in some fine engravings, and of American Typography, in the neatness with which it is printed.

The Portico, on the plan of the Portfolio, is conducted by Mr Simpson, of Philadelphia, and by a coadjutor at Baltimore; and is in plan and execution very like the Portfolio.

The North American Review, published at Boston, by Messrs Wells and Lilly, every three months, was commenced in 1816. It consists partly of original articles, and partly of selections from English Reviews.

There are, besides, several Medical Journals and Reviews, conducted by men of great talents, and well supported by the Faculty, in original communications.

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PLAN for the Improvement of Agriculture, by a regulation in the mode of levying and collecting the Tithes; by William Cole. 2s.

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A New General Atlas, constructed from the latest authorities, by A. Arrowsmith, Hydrographer to the Prince Regent, exhibiting the boundaries and divisions, also the chains of mountains, and other Geographical features of all the known Countries in the World; comprehended in 53 Maps, from original drawings. Royal 4to. Price L. 1, 16s. *neatly half-bound.*

The Edinburgh Annual Register for 1815. Vol. VIII. L. 1, 1s.

Lacunar Strevelinense; a Collection of Heads, etched and engraved after the Carved Work which formerly decorated the roof of the King's Room in Stirling Castle. Splendidly printed, Imperial 4to. With 40 Plates. L. 2, 12s. 6d.

The Farmer's Magazine, No. 71. 3s.

WORKS PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

LONDON.

Mr John Sidney Hawkins will shortly publish, in one volume 8vo, an Inquiry into the Nature, History, and first Introduction of Poetry in general, but more particularly of Dramatic Poetry, and of that sort of verse which the Latin poets employed in their Comedies; tending to show, from the strongest possible evidence, that poetical licences are unnecessary, and that the verses of Sophocles, Plautus, Terence, Pindar, and Horace, are erroneously regulated, but may be correctly distributed, without any violation of the laws of *Prosodia.*

In the ensuing month will be published, a Genealogical and Biographical History of the Family of Marmyun; with an account of the office of King's Champion attached to the tenure of the Barony and Manor of Scrivelsby in County Lincoln, part of the ancient demesne of that family—containing a variety of matter never before published, lately collected from the public records, and embellished with several engravings.

A little volume, entitled, Plurality of Worlds; or some remarks, Philosophical and Critical, in a Series of Letters occasioned by Discourses on Christianity, viewed in connection with the Modern Astro-

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nomy, as published by the Rev. Dr Chalmers, is in the press.

Proposals have been circulated, for publishing by subscription, De Vaux, or the Heir of Gilsland, a poem, in five cantos, by Robert Carlyle. The subject is the Feud between De Vaux, the Norman Baron of Gilsland, and Gill Beuth of Danish race, the original proprietor of the demesne. The scene is laid in Cumberland, during the reigns of Stephen and Henry II.

Mr J. Norris Brewer has announced an intention of speedily publishing Collections towards a Biographical Account of his Grace Hugh, late Duke of Northumberland.

The Elements of History and Geography, ancient and modern, exemplified and illustrated by the Principles of Chronology, by the Rev. J. Joyce, will soon be published in two 8vo vols.

Mr Accum has in the press, Chemical Amusements, comprising a series of curious and instructive Experiments in Chemistry, which are easily performed, and unattended with danger.

Miss A. M. Porter is preparing the Knight of St John, a Romance.

The Poetical Remains and Memoirs of the late John Leyden, M. D. are preparing for publication.

The History of the Rise and Progress of the Judicial or Adawlut System, as established for the administration of Justice under the Presidency of Bengal; with an Inquiry into the Causes of Litigation, and the delay in the Termination of Law Suits in the Court of Adawlut, 1 vol. 8vo.

Journey through Asia Minor, Armenia, and Kourdistan, in the years 1813 and 1814, with Remarks on the Marches of Alexander, and Retreat of the Ten Thousand, by John Macdonald Kinnier, Captain in the Service of the Honourable East India Company, Town-Major of Fort St George, and Political Agent at the Durbar of his Royal Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic, 2 vols. 8vo, with a large map.

The History of the late War in Spain and Portugal, by Robert Southey, Esq.

A Work is in concemplation, and will be shortly laid before the public, entitled, "History of the Helvetian, Austrian, Apennine, Pyrenean, and Northern Floras," considered with respect to the points of origin from which the different families of plants have travelled to the valleys and plains, and become mixed together; illustrated with a Botanical Map of the regions assigned to each.

Shortly will be published, the Life of Richard Watson, Lord Bishop of Llandaff, written by himself at different intervals, and revised in 1814,—to be edited by his son, Richard Watson, LL. B. Prebendary of Llandaff and Wells. The work will be handsomely printed in 4to, with a Portrait of his Lordship, from an original Portrait by Romney.

Memoirs on European and Asiatic Turkey, from the Manuscript Journals of Modern Travellers in those Countries, edited by Mr R. Walpole, will soon appear in a 4to volume, illustrated by plates.

In the press, and speedily will be published in 4to, with plates, maps, &c. A Journal of the Proceedings of the Embassy to China. By H. Ellis, Esq. Third Commissioner of the Embassy.

The Transactions of the Literary Society of Bombay. With numerous Engravings.

EDINBURGH.

Dr Buchanan will immediately put to the press an Account of the Kingdom of Nepal. Dr Buchanan resided, for several years, in that interesting country, during which time he was indefatigably employed in collecting information relative to its Natural, Civil, and Political Condition. The value and accuracy, as well as vast extent of Dr Buchanan's Researches concerning India, are too well known not to make this work a welcome present to the public.

The Rev. C. Maturin, author of the tragedy of Bertram, has in the press a Tale, in 3 vols.

In the press, and speedily will be published in 4to, Mr Robert Law, his Memorials of Remarkable Things in his Time, from 1638 to 1684; with Notes by Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, Esq. Mr Law was a clergyman of the Presbyterian persuasion, who carefully noted down the most remarkable events which took place in Scotland during his life, including Witchcraft, Necromancy, and the Apparition of Spectres. His Memorials, which have never before been printed, are not only highly amusing through the author's turn for *diablerie*, but very valuable from the historical matter which they contain.

It will be gratifying to those who patronize Celtic Literature, and more especially to those who read the Gaelic Language, to know that the Poems of Ossian, *in the original*, are now in the press.—These are reprinted from the splendid edition in 3 vols. 8vo, but without either the English or Latin translations, being intended for those only who can read Ossian in their vernacular tongue.

The lovers of Scotish melody and vocal poetry will be pleased to learn, that the second volume of Albyn's Anthology is in its progress through the press, and will be ready for delivery early in the approaching winter.

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MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

NEGOCIATIONS are stated to be going on for relieving this country from another fifth of the army of occupation. Some of the allied powers are said to be averse to this measure, although England and Russia have expressed themselves in favour of it. The French Government, it would appear, however, now repose confidence in its own stability; since, by a late decision of the Minister, approved of by the King, a door has been opened for the progressive restoration to active service of that numerous and formidable corps, the half-pay officers of the revolutionary French army. A certain number of them are henceforth to be attached to the different corps d'armée, and one half of the commissions which fall vacant in future are to be distributed amongst them. This appears to be a measure of good policy, as it has been recently manifested, that the French troops, without their officers, are not always to be depended on. A detachment of the line, attending the execution of Captain Oudin on the 18th ult. at St Genies, who had been ordered to be shot for being concerned in a former insurrection, wheeled about, and refused to fire; for such alarming insubordination, they have been one and all dismissed the King's service. Captain Darillon, who commanded them, has also been cashiered, and is farther to be tried by a court-martial.

Another evidence of the general confidence placed in the stability of the present French Government, is the fact of its having succeeded in negociating another loan, to the amount of three millions, with Mr Baring and others. The contractors are to receive the stock at the rate of 62 f. 50 c. being about 2½ or 3 below the quotations of the preceding fortnight. Immediately after the terms were known in Paris, stock was sold at 67 f. 50 c. for money, and 68 f. 20 c. for the 1st of September.

Connected with this subject, a document appeared in the end of last month, which, were it not that its authenticity has been positively denied, might start formidable doubts of the security of the present Government. This instrument bears to be a representation of the Archduchess Maria Louisa, late Empress of France, protesting against the occupation of the throne of that country by the Bourbons, and claiming it for her son, young Napoleon.—The document is dated 19th February 1815, addressed to the Congress of Vienna; and it is stated, that the ministers of the Powers there assembled, with the concurrence of the Emperors of Russia and Austria, ordered it to be recorded in the protocol of the act of Congress.

The Paris papers of the 2d August mention the arrival at Nantes of the miserable monks of La Trappe, who had found an asylum in Britain from the horrors of the French revolution, and who now return to their native country to seek their early solitude. They had resided for about 22 years at Lulworth, in Devonshire, where their exemplary conduct had obtained for them universal esteem.

ITALY.

The following is given, on the authority of private letters from Paris, as the substance of the treaty entered into with the great allied powers who signed the act of Congress, respecting the sovereignty of the duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla:—

"The duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla, will be restored, after the death of her Imperial Highness the Duchess Maria Louisa, to the Infanta Maria Louisa, (widow of the Duke of Parma and King of Etruria,) and to her male descendants in a direct line, with the exception of the districts situate on the left bank of the Po, and inclosed in the estates of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria. In default of male issue, the rights of succession of the Emperor of Austria and of the King of Sardinia will be revived. The Infanta Maria Louisa will, in the mean time, obtain provisional possession of the principality of Lucca, and will receive the arrears of 500,000 francs, which Congress had assigned her. Austria has reserved the right of maintaining a permanent garrison in the fortress of Placentia. In virtue of this treaty, Spain has acceded to the act signed at Vienna on the 9th of June 1815."

By this treaty, it is said that young Napoleon is to have the apanages in Bohemia, once belonging to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, the revenues of which are worth 700,000 francs, or something more than L. 29,000 Sterling per annum.

Letters from Rome say, that Count Blacas has delivered to the Pope the Concordat signed by the King of France. A promotion of cardinals is shortly expected,

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in which, besides the French prelates, several Italians will also receive the hat.

Letters from Naples state, that the vicinity has been cleared from the brigands, who have long invested it, in a curious manner. The Neapolitan Government has taken into full pay and active service two of the ringleaders, who have promised to make all their followers good subjects.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Paris papers contain a letter written by the mother of the Emperor Alexander to the King of Spain, expressive of the esteem and friendship entertained by her son for the King of Spain, and communicating the Emperor's desire that her Majesty should wear the decorations of the Order of St Catherine. From the warm terms in which the letter is expressed, it has been inferred, that this particularly good understanding between the Courts of St Petersburgh and Madrid is brought about by special circumstances, and a political hypothesis is immediately made out, according to which it is supposed that, by the representations of Spain, Russia has been induced to assist with her great armies in the reduction of the revolted Spanish colonies. But the facts stated are surely not sufficient to warrant such important inferences; and the London ministerial papers confidently assert, that there is not the slightest foundation for them.

An article from Madrid, in the Paris papers, states, that Ferdinand has been advised to grant a general amnesty to his subjects. This wise measure appears to have originated in the advice of the Minister of Finance, Don Martin Garay, who, having made the proposition to the Council of Finance, received a report from them on the subject, strongly recommending the measure, and containing various reflections agreeable both to sound policy and to humanity.

There is now no doubt of the fate of the brave but unfortunate General Lacy. He was carried to the Island of Majorca, and, immediately on his arrival, on the morning of the 5th July, was shot. A letter of the 12th, from Perpignan, says, "This officer, who had so many times shed his blood for the service of his country, died with equal composure and firmness. "All that I regret," said he, "is to die by the hands of my ancient brethren in arms; it was on the field of honour, and while combating the enemies of Spain, that a warrior like me ought to finish his career." After these words, he said to the soldiers, "Fire."

Accounts from Portugal, of the 9th instant, state, that Baron Eben, and about thirty others of the conspirators, had been found guilty, and was expected to be ordered for execution. General Gomez Friere is to be banished.

The Portuguese squadron which is to convey the Princess Royal to the Brazils had arrived at Leghorn, and would shortly proceed to its destination.

GERMANY.

A new general Congress, it is said, will immediately assemble at Carlsbad, composed of the following persons: Mr Lamb, as minister for England; for Russia, the Count Capo d'Istria; for Austria, the Prince de Metternich; and the Prince de Hardenberg and Compte de Caraman for the Courts of Prussia and of France. The principal objects of the deliberations of this Congress are presumed to be the affairs of South America, together with the disputes between the crowns of Spain and Portugal.

A letter from Berlin says, "The new Prussian Council of State, and the Grand Presidents of the different provinces of the monarchy, have, by a very great majority, rejected the plan of finances submitted to them by M. Bulow, the Finance Minister, on the ground of incompetence, declaring, at the same time, that the Provincial States have alone power to decide in this case, and, consequently, that the King shall be prayed to convoke the said Provincial States. This decree of the Council of State is of the highest importance, and will form an era in the Prussian annals."

The project of a new constitution for Würtemberg has met with much opposition, and occasioned a great deal of discussion. The people insist upon the re-establishment of their former rights, and the King, who is said to be goaded on by the Emperor of Russia, seems determined to oppose them. Russian influence is said to be so great in these states, since the marriage of the King with the sister of the Emperor, that the whole of the military are now attired in Russian uniforms.

The free towns of Hamburgh, Lubeck, and Bremen, have presented a long memorial to the Diet at Frankfort, on the subject of the depredations of the Tunisian privateers, which states that the captain and crew of a Hamburgh vessel have been carried into slavery. The Diet appointed a committee of five to report upon the best means of securing the trade of Germany against these pirates.

Switzerland suffered dreadfully in many parts by inundations in the course of July last. Several rivers broke their dikes; houses and bridges were destroyed in many places; and on the banks of the Lake of Constance, many communes were laid under water. In the Oberland, the fields, meadows, and plantations, were entirely submerged, and masses of the soil were seen floating about, torn up by the fury of the waters, covered with potatoes, vegetables, and hay. The storm had caused great misery to the poor peasantry, already suffer-

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ing severely from the dearth of provisions. —An extraordinary circumstance occurred during the inundation. A large manufactory of tiles, situated near the village of Fleuden, was entirely surrounded by water, which at length made its way into magagines full of lime. In an instant, the whole edifice was on fire; the owners had previously quitted it, and, as no assistance could be afforded, it was burned in the midst of the water, down to the level of it.

A letter from Vienna of the 2d July informs us, that the mountain of Hansruck, in Upper Austria, has disappeared, and given place to a lake. This mountain was very elevated, and gave its name to the country. In the preceding month, several phenomena had caused some dreadful event to be anticipated. From time to time subterranean vents had occasioned little explosions, and very much disturbed the inhabitants of the country. Some ten cottages situated on the verge of the mountain were destroyed. It is not said that any men had perished in the disaster.

The Royal National Theatre of Berlin was destroyed by fire on the 29th July. So rapid were the flames, that it was impossible to save any thing; and it was only by the activity of the firemen and police, that two churches, between which the theatre stood, as well as the neighbouring houses, did not also become a prey to the flames. The damage is estimated at about a million and a half of crowns. The building was 244 feet long, 155 broad, and 155 high within the walls. The fire which destroyed it is believed to have been wilful, and twelve persons, suspected as the incendiaries, have been apprehended.

A state of the organization of the Austrian army has been published, from which it appears that there are 564 generals, and 380 colonels, of whom 321 of the former, and 163 of the latter, are unemployed. The forces are composed of 58 regiments of infantry of the line, of which six are in France, and three in the Neapolitan dominions. There are 21 battalions of grenadiers, 17 frontier regiments, a battalion of Czaikistes, a regiment of Tyrolean chasseurs, composed of four battalions, 12 battalions of chasseurs, of which two are in France, and five battalions are in garrison. Besides these, there are the cavalry, the artillery, the miners, sappers, &c.

Population, &c. of Austria.—A periodical work on statistics, politics, and history, published at Vienna by the Baron de LICHTENSTERN, contains the following statistical sketch of the provinces and population of the Austrian monarchy, as they stand since the treaty with Bavaria, on the 14th of April last:—

1. Austrian States.—1. The country below the Enns, in extent 464 5-10ths square miles, with 1,048,000 inhabitants. 2. The country above the Enns, including the Innviertel and the portions of the Salzbruckviertel newly united, 208 6-10ths square miles, and 628,000 souls; the duchy of Styria, 392 square miles, and 796,100 inhabitants; the duchy of Carintha, 190 square miles, and 278,000 souls; the duchy of Carniola, with Idria, 190 square miles, with 377,000 souls; the country and principality of the Tyrol, with the tribunal of Wells and the lordships of the Voralberg, excepting that of Weller, 514 square miles, and 692,000 souls; the duchy of Salzburgh without the districts of Launen, Trisendorf, Titmanning, and Wagen, for the portions situate on the left bank of the rivers Salach and Saal, 162 8-10ths square miles, and 164,000 souls.

2. States of Bohemia.—The kingdom of Bohemia, with the districts of Egra and Asch, 951 4-10ths square miles, and 3,203,000 souls; the margravate of Moravia, with the Austrian part of the duchy of Silesia, 551 8-10ths square miles, and 1,708,000 inhabitants.

3. The kingdom of Galicia, including the Buckovine and the district of Tarnopole recently re-united thereto, 1514 square miles, and 3,645,000 souls.

4. The kingdom of Hungary, with the provinces and districts of the kingdoms of Sclavonia and Croatia, 4112 square miles, and 7,900,000 souls.

5. The grand duchy of Transylvania, with its annexed military frontier, 1064 8-10ths square miles, and 1,660,000 souls.

6. The kingdom of Dalmatia, with the districts of Ragusa and Caltaro, 304 square miles, and 543,000 miles.

7. The Lombardo-Venetian kingdom, divided into the governments of Lombardy and Venice, 830 4-10ths square miles, and 4,290,000 souls.

8. The countries of the Austrian military frontier, in Croatia.—1. The commanderies of Carlstadt and Waradin, 231 square miles, and 295,000 souls. 2. The Bannat frontier, 47 5-10ths square miles, and 95,000 souls. 3. The frontier province of Slavonia, 135 square miles, and 230,000 souls. 4. The Hungarian Bannat, 145 square miles, and 171,000 souls. 5. The military frontier of Transylvania, 137,000 souls.

Total, 12,046 square miles, and 27,956,000 inhabitants.

DENMARK.

The government of this country has availed itself of the first moments of peace to remove the burdens caused by the war, including the extraordinary income tax, which had been imposed for eight years.

On the 25th ult. the prisoners in the House of Correction at Copenhagen revolted, and set the prison on fire; cannon loaded with grape shot were brought down

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and fired upon them. The ringleaders were tried on the 27th by a Council of War, and several of them executed. The damage done by the fire is estimated at from 300,000 to 400,000 crowns.

SWEDEN.

Prince Oscar, son of the Crown Prince Bernadotte, took his seat on the 15th July as a member of the Swedish Council of State, on which occasion the King addressed a speech to him from the throne. The Crown Prince also made a solemn address to the King and to the Prince his son. Prince Oscar has been appointed Viceroy of Norway.

A letter in a Hamburgh paper describes certain measures which have been adopted by the Government of Sweden for the suppression of foreign trade, by bringing back the manners of the people from modern refinements to the standard of their ancient simplicity. Voluntary associations are forming in the different provinces, for laying aside the use of all foreign articles,—for wearing no clothes of foreign manufacture,—for using no liquors except such as are made at home, and for retrenching all superfluous expences at weddings, christenings, burials, &c. This system is too artificial to last, and we may be assured that, however strictly it may be enforced for a time, it will soon be evaded in all points. Restraints of any sort on the domestic habits of a country are always felt to be extremely irksome; there is consequently a perpetual tendency to shake them off, and thus it has always been found, that any system of sumptuary laws for restraining the private expences of individuals, has invariably given way before the improving habits and tastes of the community.

According to a table, describing the civil state of Sweden, 344 children at the breast were, during the year 1814, smothered by their mothers or nurses while asleep; and in the following year, 369 died through this kind of imprudence.

RUSSIA.

An attempt to raise coal, that prime article of fuel, is now about to be made, under the immediate patronage of the Emperor. The spot fixed upon for this purpose is in the vicinity of Tula—Tula, celebrated for its extensive iron-works, and especially recollected at this time, from the circumstance of Bonaparte's defeated intention of destroying them. Tula is the capital of the government of that name, distant from Moscow one hundred and fifteen miles, and situate on the river Upha, in long. 37. 24. east, and lat. 54. 10. north. This undertaking (the success of which will form an epocha never to be forgotten in the annals of the Russian empire) is under the immediate patronage, we might have added, and at the instance of the truly patriotic and enlightened Alexander. All the measures were concerted in London with his Excellency Count Lieven, the Russian ambassador; and on the 20th ult. Mr Longmire, of Whitehaven, (the director and actuary in this important concern,) proceeded from hence to London, with an assistant draftsman, and four pitmen, belonging to Whitehaven, and two borers, previously engaged at Newcastle. They sailed from Gravesend for St Petersburgh, on the first of this month; all their equipments for the voyage being on the most liberal scale. We understand they are to winter at Moscow, except a few occasional visits to Tula, as the season may allow, and to commence operations after that as early as the climate will permit.

TURKEY.

A famous leader of pirates, named Catramatto, who was conveyed to Constantinople in the beginning of May from Negropont, in a Turkish brig, has been hanged by order of the government of Galata, and six or seven sailors suffered at the same time, as an example to deter others from the like offences. As Catramatto was a native of the Ionian Islands, and no English interpreter attended at the trial, the circumstance of his condemnation has given rise to some explanatory interviews between the British minister and the agents of the Sublime Porte. Three heads have been lately exposed at the gate of the Seraglio of some rebellious chiefs, which have been transmitted by the command of the Pacha of Aleppo.

Eleven pirates have been conducted to Constantinople, and executed in the following manner:—They began by hanging one before the shops of the market, and left him exposed three days, after which they hanged a second, and so on with the others. The execution thus lasted for 33 days.

ASIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Sydney Gazette, of the 2d of March, states the execution of W. Longford, for a highway robbery, who, when confessing his former offences to the clergyman under the gallows, said, that the one which gave him the greatest concern was the murder of an unfortunate man who kept a toll-gate at or near Cheltenham; that he regretted the circumstance the more, as the man had a large family; that he shot him for an attempt to stop him, in September 1811; no person had been executed for the crime, though many had been apprehended and examined on suspicion, as he had himself been. He said he was transported to the

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colony for desertion, and had committed many offences in England upon the highway.

EAST INDIES.

An overland dispatch has been received from India, from the governor of Bombay, dated 22d March, and communicating the important intelligence of the taking of the fortress of Hattrass by the British army. This fortress belonged to a chief of the name of Diaram, who, having given cause of offence to the British government, refused all explanation of his conduct. War having been in consequence resolved upon, the British troops immediately took the field, and being arrived before the place, summoned it to surrender. The enemy refusing to capitulate, it was determined to carry the place by storm. With this view a heavy bombardment was commenced, and Congreve rockets were used with the most destructive effect. A bomb falling on the magazine, occasioned a tremendous explosion, which destroyed numbers in the garrison, and finally enabled the assailants to gain possession of the fortress. The loss of the British by the fire of the enemy was inconsiderable.

The Madras Gazette, of the 15th March, contains the following distressing account: "We are concerned to state a melancholy account which occurred in Columbo harbour on the 27th of January, by the upsetting of one of the boats belonging to his Majesty's ship Iphigenia. From the accounts received, it appears that a party of officers belonging to his Majesty's 73d regiment, had proceeded on board the Iphigenia on that day to join with the officers of the ship, and that on their return in the evening, the boat unfortunately upset, by which distressing occurrence no less than seven lives were lost. Ensigns Campbell, Coane, and Hanwell, of his Majesty's 73d regiment, and Lieutenant Sanders of his Majesty's ship Iphigenia, two seamen, and one boy, were drowned; the remaining seven got safe on shore."

Advices from Bombay to the 16th March state, that the trade to the Persian Gulf has been most dreadfully annoyed for a length of time by the Jooffmel pirates, who had no less than forty cruizers at sea. On the 6th January, three of them attacked and captured, after a smart action, the Deriah, Doulut, belonging to the East India Company. Seventeen of the crew were murdered, eight detained as prisoners, and the remainder, who were wounded, were landed to the westward of Bombay. The pirates were armed with six nine pounders, and carried from 100 to 200 men. The Union, Captain Barker, is stated to have been wrecked about fifteen months previous to the above date, near the island of Engano. The captain, three officers, and forty-seven men, had reached the island, where they were stripped and detained prisoners; one of them, a native of Bativa, had escaped, and brought the above intelligence.

His Majesty's ship *Alceste* was lost on a rock off the north end of Middle Island, in the Straits of Gasper, on or about the 17th of February; she was last from Manilla; struck about seven o'clock in the morning. They landed on Middle Island; no lives lost. Lord Amherst went to Batavia with three of the ship's boats, and about forty men. The Ternate, one of the Honourable Company's cruizers, immediately sailed for the wreck, and found them (Captain Maxwell and about 225 people, who were on Middle Island) surrounded by seven or eight hundred Malays, expecting an attack from them every moment. They all left the wreck, and went to Batavia in the Ternate.

The letters from the Mauritius by the Pallas, which sailed the 8th of April last, convey very gloomy intelligence of the state of that colony. In consequence of the dreadful fire, houses of the highest commercial character have required ten and six years to meet their engagements. All metallic money has disappeared; and the local Treasury has been compelled to issue notes for sums so low as a rupee. These are depreciated in the Bazaar; and, even in exchange for brass money, the holder is compelled to allow a premium. The second expedition to Madagascar has experienced as disastous a result as the first experiment. Before the Pallas sailed, the Musquito sloop of war was dispatched from Port Louis to bring back the survivors; but it was feared, from the dreadful mortality, that all the new settlers had perished, amongst whom was Governor Farquhar's aide-de-camp, Lieutenant-Governor Le Sage.

CHINA.

The failure of the late embassy to China has been ascribed to certain impositions practised by the Chinese officers of state on the Emperor; and the fact is now placed beyond doubt by an imperial edict, a copy of which we now subjoin, extracted from the Pekin Gazette of the 4th September 1816. It is a singular production, conveying, amidst a pompous simplicity, some very sensible admonition.

"On the present occasion of the English nation sending envoys with the tribute of valuable offerings, as they could not, when at Tiensing, return thanks for the feast agreeably to the regulated form, the conducting them again to their boats, for the purpose of proceeding farther north, was the fault of Su-ling-gue and Quanghoy.

"When they were at Tongchow, and had not yet practised the ceremony—the framing a confused and indistinct report, and then conducting them at once to court, was the fault of Ho-she-tay and New-ke-tong-gue. Finally, on the 7th day, I, the Emperor, having issued my orders, and ascended into the imperial hall, called the

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envoys to an audience; but the envoys and suite had travelled from Tongchew all night, and had come direct to the palace gate, without stopping by the way at their appointed residence; and their dresses of ceremony not having arrived, they could not present themselves before me. If at that time Ho-she-tay had addressed to me a true report, I, the Emperor, would certainly have issued my commands, and have changed the time of the audience, in order to correspond with their intentions in coming ten thousand miles to my court. On the contrary, he addressed to me repeated reports, expressed in disrespectful language, in consequence of which the envoys were sent back, and the ceremonies could not be completed. The error and mismanagement of Ho-she-tay in this affair are wholly inexcusable.

"The arrangements for the business of the day had already been made. Excepting the minister Tutsin, who was absent from illness, and Toukao and Lou-yin-po, whose attendance had not been required, all the assisting princes, grandees, and great officers of state, as well as all the great officers of the palace, were in waiting in the antichamber. Many of them must have been eye-witnesses of the whole affair, and must have known in their hearts that it was their duty to have made a true report of it to me, and to have solicited me to alter the period of the audience; yet they sat unmoved while the affair was thus going wrong. Though Ho-she-tay was visibly alarmed and in error, no one stood forward to set him right.

"After the imperial audience took place, some persons who knew the truth, disclosed Ho-she-tay's error and irresolution; but why did they not address me at the time in his stead? or if they dared not go that length, why did they not at least awaken Ho-she-tay, and cause him to report the truth? Thus it is, that when public business occurs, their countenances are always placid and composed—they sit unmoved, and see its failure with indifference. Such conduct, whenever it occurs in any situation of hazard or difficulty, one cannot behold without sighing deeply.

"The affair in which Ho-she-tay has erred is in itself a very small one; yet even in this the officers of the court have been found destitute of any expedient for the service of their country. For the future let them eradicate all selfish principles: whenever there is any defect of fidelity or public spirit, let no one plead that it is an affair which does not individually concern him—let all look up, and diligently regulate their conduct according to the true spirit of the admonitions I have repeatedly given them.—Respect this."

Letters are said to be received from Canton, dated on the 8th of March, which state that the Emperor of China has sent a letter to the Prince Regent, requiring that no more embassies be sent to the "Celestial Empire." The Anti-English party at the Chinese court is reported in the same letters to have been restored to the Emperor's favour, notwithstanding his severe edict of censure against them.

The latest accounts from Canton state, that much discontent prevails among the people of Cochin-China, occasioned by the king nominating for his successor a son of one of his concubines. The Emperor of China, who pretends to have a right to interfere in the appointment of the kings of that country, has expressed his displeasure at the nomination.

AFRICA.

ALGIERS.

The plague broke out in Algiers on the 18th July, to which place it was introduced by a caravan of Moors returning from Mecca, who afterwards proceeded over land to Morocco; and the disease now rages all along the coast. The religion of the natives not allowing them to take any precautions against infection, it is to be feared that the mortality will spread its ravages without control.

TRIPOLI.

The Dey of Tripoli has presented the Prince Regent of Great Britain with such remains of antiquity as are moveable at Lebyda, which is famous for being the site of Carthage. The *Weymouth* store-ship is now on her voyage thither, for the purpose of receiving and carrying to England those ancient monuments, which are represented as highly curious, and illustrative of that once splendid capital. It is stated, that the Dey has offered protection as far as his authority extends, to any European who is willing to attempt the journey from Tripoli to Tombuctoo. This, however, will prove but trifling, as the greatest danger exists after quitting his territories, as the road lies then directly across the Great Desart.

ST HELENA.

The *Lucy* and *Mary*, recently arrived at Portsmouth, left St Helena on the 17th of June. The *Lady Campbell*, from Bengal and Madras, was to sail on the 20th. Bonaparte was well. He had lately received a bust of his son, which afforded him much evident satisfaction. It was given in charge to a sailor, of the ship Baring, (it was believed,) who, upon his arrival at the island, was to concert the most prudent means of conveying it to its destination. The man became dangerously ill, before the opportunity of executing his secret commission presented itself; and sending for his com-

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manding officer, he revealed the circumstance to him. The bust was thereupon sent to Sir Hudson Lowe, who, though Bonaparte had long refused to be on terms of even courteous civility with him, instantly caused it to be conveyed to him. There appears no relaxation whatever in the belief of the Commanders, that Bonaparte's darling object and constant hope are, to get away from the island. His health had improved of late: he spends most of his time at his billiard-table.

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

The Slave Trade.—The following resolutions were passed by the Congress of the United States of America, on the 11th of February 1817:—

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to consult and negociate with all the Governments where Ministers of the United States are, or shall be accredited, on the means of effecting an entire and immediate abolition of the traffic in slaves: and also, to enter into a convention with the Government of Great Britain for receiving into the colony of Sierra Leone such of the free people of colour of the United States as, with their own consent, shall be carried thither, stipulating such terms as shall be most beneficial to the colonists while it promotes the peaceful interests of Great Britain and the United States; and should this proposition not be accepted, then to obtain from Great Britain and the other maritime powers, a stipulation or a formal declaration to the same effect, guaranteeing a permanent neutrality for any colony of free people of colour, which, at the expence, and under the auspices of the United States, shall be established on the African coast.

"Resolved, That adequate provision shall hereafter be made to defray any necessary expences which may be incurred in carrying the preceding resolution into effect."

The new President, Mr Monro, is continuing his tour, and is every where entertained with great magificence.

Joseph Bonaparte has purchased of S. Sayer, Esq. formerly Sheriff of London, his elegant seat at Bordentown, on the Jersey side of the Delaware, which he is rebuilding in the Italian style. His income is about £6000 per annum; and he passes his time chiefly in his library, and in retirement.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Letters from Halifax, of the 16th July, state, that numerous vessels continued to arrive there with emigrants from Great Britain. Within the three weeks immediately preceding that date, about 1000 individuals had been landed, and immense numbers were on their way to Canada. The brig Traveller, from Leith, with 60 emigrants, foundered at sea in the month of May, but the passengers and crew were saved by the ship Valiant, and landed at Prince Edward's Island in the Gulf at St Lawrence.

PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

The account, in our last number, of the restoration of the royal authority at Pernambuco has been confirmed. The troops from Bahia were attacked by the insurgents on the 15th May, when an action took place which lasted all night, after which the insurgent force appears to have dispersed. On the 16th, Martinez, the leader of the insurrection, at the head of a small column, was attacked by a corps of 300 men, by whom he was defeated, and afterwards taken prisoner, and carried to Bahia, where he was executed on the 11th June. About 70 other prisoners were about to be tried, and it was expected would share the same fate. Letters from Pernambuco of the 26th June state, that every thing was tranquil there, but that trade was still in a deranged state. The property of those who had engaged in the insurrection was confiscated.

SPANISH AMERICA.

The accounts from this interesting portion of South America are more uniformly favourable to the patriot cause than during an early stage of their important and protracted struggle. Their privateering has of late proved a lucrative trade, and with the spoils of their land engagements, increased their means of supporting the contest.—On the 8th May, the independent government of Venezuela were enabled to revive their former constitution. General Bolivar and Don Fernando Toro were placed at the head of the executive power. Judges and other functionaries were also chosen, and Generals Bolivar and Marino were reinstated in the command of the armies.—A decree was at the same time issued, confirming Brion as admiral in chief of the Venezuelian squadron. Among other things, it was determined that the city of Assumption, in the island of Margarita, should be the future residence of the federal government, and that its name should henceforth be changed to that of New Sparta, in consequence of the heroic conduct of its inhabitants.

This Government has issued a decree permitting English and American goods to be imported for a duty of 8 per cent., instead of the 17½ exacted from other nations; but promising to these other nations the same mitigation of impost whenever they shall shew to the patriots the same conciliatory disposition.

In Chili, at the opposite extremity of the Spanish empire, and in some respects the most interesting region of the western world,

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the arms of the patriots were triumphant. On the 15th March they had taken possession of Valparaiso; and accounts from Buenos Ayres, of the 16th May, state, that after driving the royalists from all the strong places in the country, the insurgent armies were pressing forward into Peru. Many of the Chilian patriots, who had been banished to Juan Fernandes, had been brought back to St Jago in triumph.

The patriot army in Mexico, under General Mina, had, by the last accounts, left Santa Marina for New St Ander, the capital of a district of the same name. His army was receiving constant reinforcements of young men as he passed through the country; and every thing promised the most favourable result for the cause of Mexican liberty.

In the beginning of August, a vessel sailed from Portsmouth for St Thomas's, with 10,000 stand of arms, 10,000 muskets, and 10,000 cutlasses on board; and also about 100 British officers, volunteers, to join the independent cause in South America. The Spanish minister in London complained of this to Lord Castlereagh, who told him, that no law existed from preventing British officers on half-pay from leaving the kingdom, or throwing up their commissions. The ambassador replied, that if they were taken in company with rebels, they must expect to meet with rebel fate. To this observation Lord Castlereagh had nothing to reply, except that British officers so circumstanced must abide by the consequences.

WEST INDIES.

The Jamaica papers contain details relative to the predatory vessels with which the West Indies is infested. At Jamaica they give the appellation of pirates to their crews, and denounce vengeance against them. The trade of that island seems to have suffered most severely from their depredations. Nor is the evil likely to be lessened speedily, for Commodore Taylor, as he is styled, a bold and adventurous leader, has collected no less than 13 armed vessels in these seas. His immediate object was represented to be an attack on Porto Rico, the richest of the Spanish West India Islands, and close to St Domingo. Much of course depends upon the dispositions of the troops and inhabitants. The Jamaica Courant, of the 16th of May, says, "Information from home states, that Lord Melville had forwarded to this island positive instructions to check in every instance the piratical depredations of any flag which may be found annoying the commerce of this colony."

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

JULY.

5.—*Destruction, by Fire, of a Steam-Boat.*—The Regent steam-packet sailed from London on Wednesday morning last for Margate, with about fifty persons on board; and about four in the afternoon, she was discovered to be on fire, which was occasioned by the flue of the chimney being blown away, and the flame having caught hold of the wood work erected upon deck for keeping the people near the chimney from burning themselves. The captain immediately determined to make to land, Whitstable being then eight miles distant, which he reached in the course of an hour, the fire raging in the interior of the vessel during the time, and causing a scene of terror upon deck altogether indescribable. Three boats from Whitstable took the passengers and crew on shore, after the vessel grounded, and, in less than three minutes afterwards, the deck fell in, and every part of the vessel was ultimately consumed, except the keel and engine, which, on the ebbing of the tide, were found buried in the sand.

18.—*Launch.*—Yesterday was launched from the King's deck-yard at Deptford, a new yacht, named the Royal George. The Board of Admiralty, Comptroller, and Commissioners of the Navy, were present, as also a large assemblage of persons who filled the several booths erected for witnessing the ceremony. This vessel is one of the most elegant ever seen. The cabin doors are of mahogany, with gilt mouldings, and the windows of plate glass. Ornamental devices, in abundance, are placed in various parts all highly gilt, and produced a superb appearance.

By a Parliamentary paper, it appears that there are about twenty individuals who have dividends due to them upon the Orphan Fund for various periods, from the year 1694 downwards. In one case the interest due is nearly five times greater than the principal.

Statement of the quantity of porter brewed by the twelve principal houses in London, from 5th July 1816 to July 1817:—

	Barrels.
Barclay, Perkins, and Co.	261,484
Hanbury and Co.	166,757
Reid and Co.	157,131
Whitbread and Co.	151,888
Henry Meux and Co.	124,823
Combe, Delafield, and Co.	110,776
Calvert and Co.	98,301

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	Barrels.
Goodwin and Co.	60,307
Elliot and Co.	55,163
Taylor and Co.	42,920
Golden Lane Brewery,	25,756
Hollingsworth,	7,629

21.—*Golfing.*—On Saturday, the silver club, given by the city of Edinburgh to the Honourable Company of Golfers, was played for on Leith Links, and gained by Walter Cook, Esq. writer to the signet, the present holder of the gold medal.

Singular Discovery.—A curious circumstance took place at Shadwell-Office on Saturday. Sarah Ann Brown, *alias* William Brown, was charged with an assault, and, during the examination, (being dressed in sailor's clothes,) confessed she was a woman, and had served 14 years in the royal navy, in the Queen Charlotte, had a pension, and had but lately returned from a voyage to the West Indies. She is a native of New-York, and said nothing would have induced her to discover her sex but the unpleasant situation in which she was placed. After making satisfaction, she was discharged.

23.—*Fire-Damp Explosion.*—On Monday night last, a partial explosion took place in Sheriff-Hill colliery at Newcastle, by which John Tempest, one of the hewers, was so dreadfully burnt, that he died the following day. The accident was owing solely to the obstinacy of the deceased, who would persist in going into a part of the mine with a lighted candle, against the express orders of the overman. He has left a widow and three children.

Diving-Bell.—On the 19th, as three men, employed on the new works carrying on at Sheerness dock-yard, were descending in the diving-bell, some accident occurred, and the signal to be drawn up not being understood by the person above, two out of the three were unfortunately drowned; the one who was saved made his escape from under the bell, which the others were unable to effect. As soon as recovered, the bodies were taken to the surgery, and means used to restore animation, but, unhappily, without effect.

24.—*Mr Sadler's Balloon.—Crossing St George's Channel.*—Mr Sadler, junior, ascended from the Cavalry Barrack, near Dublin, on the 22d inst. as forty minutes past one P. M., and landed at about a mile and a half from Holyhead, at half-past seven P. M., having crossed the Irish Channel in about six hours. Mr Sadler effected his descent, in perfect safety, in a corn field, being six hours and five minutes from the time of his ascent. He experienced various contrary currents of air, and perfect calms, with the extremes of heat and cold. Mr Sadler returned to Dublin this morning. Thus, for the first time, has the perilous attempt of crossing the Channel been accomplished by a youth not yet in his twenty-second year. During Mr Sadler's stay at Holyhead, he went to visit the new pier which is building there; and, seeing the diving-bell, was, at his pressing request, let down in it to a depth of several fathoms, where he remained under water a considerable time.

Grand Naval Entertainment.—This day Captain Forrest, of the Ister frigate, entertained nearly 300 ladies and gentlemen of the first fashion on board that ship in Leith Roads. The entertainment consisted of a *déjeuné* on the quarter deck, where ices of every description, and the finest fruits, pine-apples, grapes, cakes, noyeau, and other liqueurs, orgeat, lemonade, &c. were in the greatest profusion. The gun-deck was fitted up as a dining-room, and the table splendidly ornamented with naval and military trophies, festoons of flowers, &c. At five o'clock the company sat down to an elegant hot dinner and desert, during which the choicest wines flowed liberally. After dinner, the company went to the ball-room, where country dances and waltzes were kept up with great spirit, during which the company were entertained with all kinds of ices and fruits till two o'clock, when they returned to the gun-deck to supper, which was served up in the same elegant style. After which the dancing recommenced, and did not leave off till five o'clock on Friday morning, Gow's band and the ship's band played alternately; and the band of the sixth dragoon guards was stationed on the beach when the company came off.

25.—*Inverness.*—The excise-officers of this district, having had information that a considerable quantity of smuggled salt was to be conveyed from the west coast, set out with a party on the 31st, with the view of intercepting it. At the west end of the wood of Spittal, Ross-shire, they fell in with five men driving four horses laden with salt, which they seized without much opposition. In a short time thereafter, three other parties of smugglers successively came up, and the horses and salt they escorted were seized, making in all twenty horses, with a bag of salt each. In the resistance made by one party of the smugglers, one of their number was severely wounded by the officers' swords; one of the horses was killed by the same means; the others were sold at Inverness, next day, by public auction.

Archery.—On the 19th, the silver arrow, given by the town of Musselburgh, was shot for on the race-course there, by the Royal Company of Archers, and gained by Sir Patrick Walker.

28.—*Explosion at the New Custom-house, Thames Street, London.*—About ten o'clock this morning, the foundation of the stair-case at the public entrance was blown

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up, by the bursting of one of the principal pipes for conducting the gas. The explosion was tremendous, and the stones were scattered with great force in every direction. We did not hear that any person was hurt.

Trial of Luddites, &c.—The trials of the Luddites, and those concerned in the late riots at Huddersfield, took place last week at the York Assizes, when the prisoners were all acquitted; for, although it appeared in evidence, that the riots were of an alarming description, the guilt could not be fixed on any of the persons indicted. The Judge exhorted the prisoners, before discharging them, to beware of engaging in such courses in future; to which one of them immediately replied for the rest, "We will indeed, my Lord."

30.—*Lord Castlereagh.*—On Sunday the 27th, as Lord Castlereagh was walking in his grounds, at Footscray, in Kent, accompanied by a Wirtemberg dog of his lady's, a large Spanish dog fell upon the animal, and his Lordship immediately pulled it off. The smaller dog flew at his antagonist, as the latter was taken from him, and in doing so fastened upon his Lordship's fingers, which he grasped so strongly, that Lord Castlereagh was obliged to employ his other hand in opening the dog's mouth. His Lordship's hand was, in consequence, considerably lacerated, the sinews of the first and second fingers being separated, and the nail of one being nearly torn off. Dr Baukhead was immediately sent for to London, who ordered his Lordship to bed; and it was some time before he could again attend to his important duties.

31.—*Improvements in Edinburgh.*—On Monday last, stances for seven houses, four on the north side, and three on the south side of the Regent's Bridge, between Prince's Street and the arch, were sold to a builder for L.25,000. By the contract, the buildings must all be finished by Martinmas 1818.

Railway.—A subscription has been commenced for a railway to convey the county coal to Edinburgh and Leith. The carriage of coals to Edinburgh is reckoned to cost about L. 60,000 Sterling yearly, falling, of course, in a great degree, upon the poorer and more numerous class of the inhabitants. By the railway, it is expected, after paying 10 *per cent.* to the subscribers, that the carriage will be performed at one-half of the present cost, and a saving arise to the public of about L. 30,000 *per annum.*

A remarkably fine fat buck was killed, some time ago, in Bradley Park, Yorkshire. On opening the animal it was discovered, that at some distant time, it had been shot in the heart, for a ball was contained in a cyst in the substance of that viscus, about two inches from the apex, which was beaten quite flat.

Waterloo Fund.—The following account of the state of the Waterloo subscription, on the 31st May last, has just been published:—

Amount received by the Committee, and increased by dividends on stock, interest on Exchequer bills, and profit on stock sold	L. 518,288	9	11
APPROPRIATION.			
Annuities granted for life to the widows, wounded non-commissioned officers and privates, totally disabled, and to dependent relatives - - - - - -	11,783	0	0
Annuities granted for limited periods to the children of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, and to orphans -	9209	0	0
Total amount of annuities - -	L. 20,992	0	0
VOTED IN MONEY.			
To the wounded officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates - - - -	L. 71,126	0	0
To the parents and dependent relatives of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates killed, leaving no widows or children -	26,577	0	0
To the foreign troops -	62,500	0	0
Total amount voted in money -	L.162,203	0	0

AUGUST.

1.—*State Trials.*—Yesterday about 80 persons dined at the Crown and Anchor, London, to celebrate the acquittal of Watson, Thistlewood, &c. Mr Hunt was in the chair, and spoke several times in the course of the evening. Messrs Watson, Thistlewood, and Preston, also addressed the meeting on their healths being given. Hooper was absent from indisposition.

British Navy.—An important official document has just appeared, in the shape of proposals and regulations relative to the navy, made by the Board of Admiralty, and sanctioned by an order of Council. After elucidating the accidental causes which have introduced the existing anomaly of rating ships at a certain number of guns, while their real complement exceeded that nominal amount, the Board, with a just and patriotic feeling, make the following observations:—"We trust we shall be excused for observing to your Royal Highness, that is wholly unworthy the character of the royal navy of this kingdom, to maintain this system, which, though introduced without any design of deception, yet may give occasion to foreign nations to accuse us of misrepresentation, when we state that a British frigate of 36 guns has taken a foreign frigate of 44,

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when, in fact, the British frigate was of equal, if not superior force." It is then stated, that the American ship President had 55 guns mounted on the day of her capture, though she was rated at only 44. In the British navy this practice will no longer continue, for it is now ordered, that the rule which prevailed prior to 1793 shall be revived, and in future all his Majesty's ships will be rated at the number of guns and carronades which they actually carry on their decks, quarter-decks, and forecastles.

Swindling.—On the 29th ult. a swindler contrived to carry off a considerable sum from the Glasgow Bank, by using the name of Adamson and Logan, manufacturers; whose proceeds of bills discounted he audaciously called for and received from one of the tellers. The amount was L. 1314; but this being a larger sum than the swindler wanted, or was able to utter, he next day returned L. 900, inclosed in a letter, in which he promised to repay the remainder on his arrival in America.

2.—*University of Edinburgh.*—Yesterday the Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh conferred the degree of Doctor in Medicine on 92 gentlemen, after the usual public and private trials—namely, 37 of Scotland, 18 from England, 32 from Ireland, three from Jamaica, one from Hamburgh, and one from Barbadoes.

An old Egg.—About a fortnight ago, when pulling down the wall of an old house in Annan, a hen's egg was discovered in the middle of the wall, which was composed of stone and clay, and was built in the year 1648; consequently, the egg must have continued there for the long space of 169 years. When found, the shell was completely whole. This relique of antiquity is now in the possession of Mr Bryce Downie, mathematician in Annan.

4.—*The King.*—Yesterday the following bulletin was exhibited at St James's Palace:—"Windsor Castle, August 2.—His Majesty has been generally in good health and tranquil spirits during this last month, though, perhaps, less uniformly than for some months preceding. His Majesty's disorder has suffered no alteration."—It has been reported, and partially believed, that his Majesty had lost his hearing as well as his eye-sight; but we are happy to state that there is no truth in the report. Indeed, as if Providence kindly intended to compensate for the loss of vision, his Majesty's sense of hearing is not merely quick, but it has become, if we may be allowed to use the term, *discriminative.* When his Majesty is in a composed state of mind, he can readily distinguish, and tell, by their footsteps, the name of any one who is approaching or passing him. As but few are allowed to see him, he generally amuses himself as they pass, by calling to them by name. His Majesty's habits have not, in consequence of infirmity or old age, undergone material change. His Majesty, as usual, rises early—breakfasts at eight o'clock, or soon after—dines at one—continues partial to mutton and beef, and when in a tranquil state, he orders what his dinner table shall be furnished with.

Launch of a Frigate.—The Arethusa, a very fine frigate of 46 guns, was launched on the 29th ult. from the new dock-yard, Pembroke. Her dimensions and tonnage are as under:

	Feet.	In.
Length of keel for tonnage	126	1
Breadth - - - - - - -	40	1
Tonnage - - - - - -	1,934	69-94ths.

This vessel is a sister ship to the Thetis frigate, launched from the same yard in February last.

Water Spout.—On the 1st inst. between two and three in the afternoon, Cupar, Fife, was visited by a thunder-storm of about an hour's continuance. It was attended by the singular phenomenon of a water-spout, which discharged itself on Tarvit Hill, over the north side of which it descended in a torrent on the adjacent fields; and these, to a considerable extent, were entirely flooded. The violence of the torrent was such, that large stones were rolled along; deep trenches were formed; and from the ground over which it passed, every trace of vegetation has fled.

Thunder Storms.—On Tuesday the 22d ult. about two o'clock, while Mr D. Smith, farmer at Denside, in the parish of Monikie, was sitting in his parlour at dinner, along with Mrs Smith, he suddenly heard an explosion and a shriek from the kitchen, in which were Miss Smith, two servant girls, and a servant man. On hurrying to the kitchen, he found it filled with smoke, which soon cleared away, and disclosed his daughter and three servants in a state of stupor—several pieces of the pavement of the floor torn up and shattered—that on which stood the chair, where two of the servants were sitting, together with the chair, shivered to atoms, all the panes dashed out of the kitchen window—and the ceiling perforated to the extent of six feet by three. Two large holes were also made in the inner wall of the chimney, and the chimney-stalk was rent in pieces. The rustics, (two of whom were sitting on one chair,) though struck to the ground, escaped with very little injury from that tremendous power by which the solid earth under them was rent, and their seat literally annihilated.

During a very heavy thunder-storm on Wednesday 23d ult. a shepherd got into a small shed on Seven Oaks common, accompanied by his dog, for shelter, where

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they were joined by another person, and in the course of the storm the shepherd began to relate the circumstance of his brother having been killed by lightning about thirty years ago, when the narrator received a shock which instantly deprived him of his life. His dog was also killed by his side; —his companion received a shock, but was merely stunned. The watch of the deceased was melted in his fob, the steel chain shivered to pieces, and the glass shattered into a nest of sand.

On Thursday the 31st ult. soon after ten o'clock, Manchester and its neighbourhood were visited by a very serious and violent thunder-storm, accompanied with a descent of hailstones of an amazing size. The electric fluid has left awful impressions of its destructive power: At Pendleton, two men, of the names of John Armitage and John Royle, were struck dead whilst making hay, and several others were much stunned, and narrowly escaped; Mr Gorton, bleacher, was knocked down in the same direction.

7.—*Chain Bridge.*—A chain bridge is just finished at Dryburgh, which has been erected at the expence of the Earl of Buchan, for the convenience of foot passengers, across the river Tweed. The appearance of this bridge is uncommonly light and elegant, and, connected with the fine scenery of Dryburgh, it is beautiful and interesting. It consists of a platform of wood, supported by chains suspended from pillars on each side of the river, at the height of eighteen feet above low water, and has no support under it. The passage is easy and level, and has very little vibration.—The span between the points of suspension is two hundred and sixty-one feet, being the greatest span of any bridge in the kingdom.

8.—*Roger O'Connor, Esq.*—This gentleman, so well known in the political history of Ireland, was apprehended in the end of April last, on a charge of having been concerned in the robbery of the Galway mail-coach, in 1812, at Cuppagh Hill, county of Kildare, where it was attacked and robbed of a considerable sum in bank bills, &c. This not being a bailable offence, Mr O'Connor was kept in prison in Dublin till removed to Trim, county of Meath, where his trial came on on the 5th instant, and ended in a most triumphant acquittal. The prosecution was carried on at the instance of the Post-office, Dublin; but their principal witnesses, Michael Owens and Daniel Waring, seemingly two of the most infamous characters that ever disgraced society, prevaricated so in their testimony, that no doubt remained on the minds of the Court and Jury, that they had conspired against the life of the gentleman at the bar. Owens was recently under sentence of death for robbery, and obtained his pardon by swearing informations against Mr O'Connor, and Waring's brother was hanged for the robbery in question. Owens stated in his cross-examination, that proposals had been made to him for saving his life, if he gave information against Mr O'Connor; and a Dublin paper states, that the conspiracy has been traced to a Magistrate in the county of Cork, against whom Mr O'Connor has instituted an action. Sir F. Burdett was summoned as a witness for the defence, and gave a high character of Mr O'Connor for honour and integrity. The verdict of acquittal was hailed with loud acclamations by those within and without the Court, and the people were with difficulty prevented from carrying Sir Francis and Mr O'Connor in triumph through the town, which was illuminated with bonfires in the evening.

Canal between Edinburgh and Glasgow.—The first general meeting of proprietors of the Union Canal, which is to extend from Edinburgh to the Forth and Clyde Canal at Falkirk, took place in the Royal Exchange Coffee-house, Edinburgh, on Tuesday the 5th, when the following gentlemen were unanimously chosen members of the Committee of Management, viz.—Right Hon. William Arbuthnot, Lord Provost of Edinburgh—Sir John Marjoribanks, Bart. of Lees, M. P.—Colonel Robert Anstruther—Mr John Wigham, jun.—Mr Robert Morton—Watkin William Massie, Esq.—John Kid, Esq. Glasgow—James M. M'Culloch, Esq. of Ardwell—Robert Graham, Esq. of Whitehill—General William Maxwell—Alexander Munro, Esq. and Robert Downie, Esq. of Appin.—The meeting afterwards appointed Mr G. Moncreiff to be clerk to the Company, and Mr Hugh Baird to be their engineer. It appeared, on examining the subscription papers, that there was a deficiency of nearly L. 27,000, which required to be filled up before the work can commence. Since the meeting, however, that sum is reduced by new subscriptions to a little more than L. 15,000, which there is every reason to believe will be made up in a few days.

9.—*Edinburgh High School.*—The annual examination of this school took place yesterday; when the gold medal, the gift of the late Colonel P. Murray, was adjudged to Master William Glover, son of Mr W. Glover, merchant, Leith.—Another beautiful gold medal was presented to Master George Napier, son of G. Napier, Esq. of Dales, the same young gentleman who won the Greek medal last year. An elegant gold medal, given by Mr Pillans, the Rector, to the best scholar in his geography class, was gained by Master Henry Dundas Drummond.—The writing class, taught by Mr M'Kean, was examined on Thursday. Two elegant medals, the gifts of Walter Brown, Esq. College Bailie, and Mr M'Kean, were adjudged by the exami-

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nators, and presented, the one to Master Gavin Milroy, son of Andrew Milroy, Esq. jeweller, Edinburgh, and the other to Master David Scott, son of William Scott, Esq. Leith Links.

12.—*Shocking Barbarity.*—The assizes at Trim, Ireland, terminated on Saturday last. One of the convicts, named Martin, has been executed for a barbarous murder, committed on the persons of a young woman and her infant child, of which child he was the father. He had promised the young creature marriage, and prevailed on her to cross the country with him, in order to go to a priest, by whom to be married; in a field upon the way the diabolical villain murdered his unsuspecting victim and her infant, and put the bodies into a hole. Providence sleepeth not: a heavy rain washing away the earth, the hand of the murdered woman was observed by a passenger, and this led to the discovery of this horrible transaction—one at which human nature shudders. The circumstances were so strong, the Jury had no hesitation in finding the wretch guilty. After his conviction he acknowledged the crime.

13.—*Horrid Depravity.*—At the late Mullingar assizes, in Ireland, Thomas Clarke and Henry Burke were found guilty of the murder of Patrick Mahon, by beating out his brains with an iron crow. The villains, after their conviction, evinced a hardened depravity, which deeply shocked Lord Norbury, and a crowded Court; they declared aloud, that on the night of the day they would be executed, their associates would have the lives of all concerned in their prosecution; and the brother of the prisoner, Clarke, had the audacity to call to him from the gallery of the Court, in terms of apparent approbation.

15.—*Riot in the Isle of Man.*—A new code of criminal laws for the Isle of Man, including an act for regulating the sale of herrings, and an act for abolishing all paper money for the payment of sums under twenty shillings, both passed in the last session of Parliament, were lately proclaimed, according to ancient usage, before the inhabitants of the island, in presence of the constituted authorities.—During the recital of the latter act, there appeared a manifest disposition to tumult, amongst a part of the assembled crowd, which increased in such a degree as to require the assistance of the military. Only one of the mob was slightly wounded in the arm by a sabre. It appears that this tumult was occasioned by a false report, industriously propagated, that the new laws had for their object the levying a heavy tribute upon herrings, to support the bishop and clergy.

New Steam Vessel.—A fine new steamboat, called the Tug, arrived at Leith yesterday morning from Glasgow. From the large dimensions of this vessel, she could not pass through the Forth and Clyde Canal, but came north about through the Pentland Frith, and although she encountered most boisterous weather off Cape Wrath, and in the Murray Frith, has arrived in perfect safety. In the hard gale of yesterday, she came up the Frith against wind and tide, with a degree of velocity that astonished the numerous spectators.—The Tug is the property of the Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Leith Shipping Company, and is intended for towing their vessels from Leith to Grangemouth.

PATENTS LATELY ENROLLED.

JOHN RAFFIELD, of Edward Street, Portman Square, architect, for certain improvements on, and additions to, his former patent, for an apparatus to be attached to fire-stoves of all descriptions for rooms, for the removal of cinders and ashes, and for the better prevention of dust arising therefrom which said additions may be used jointly or separately. January 10, 1817.

To JOSEPH de CAVILLON, Sambrook Court, London, gentleman, for improvements in the preparing, clarifying, and refining of sugar, and other vegetable, animal, and mineral substances, and in the machinery and utensils used therein. Jan. 23.

ROBERT DICKINSON, Great Queen Street, Esq. for a method or methods of preparing or paving streets and roads for horses and carriages, so as to render the parts or pavements, when so done, more durable, and ultimately less expensive, than those in common use, and presenting other important advantages. Jan. 23.

DANIEL WILSON, Dublin, gentleman, for improvements in the process of boiling and refining sugar. January 23.

GEORGE MONTAGUE HIGGINSON, of Bovey, Tracy, Devon, lieutenant in the navy, for improvements in locks. February 1.

WILLIAM WALL, Wandsworth, watchmaker, for a horizontal escapement for watches. Feb. 1.

ISAAC ROBERT MOTT, Brighton, composer and teacher of music, for a method of producing, from vibrating substances, a tone or musical sound, the peculiar powers in the management whereof are entirely new, and which musical instrument he denominates 'The Sostinente Piano Forte.' February 1.

WILLIAM BUNDY, Pratt Place, Camden Town, mathematical instrument-maker, for machinery for breaking and preparing flax and hemp. February 1.

JAMES ATKINSON WEST, Crane Court, Fleet Street, brass-worker and lamp-manufacturer, for improvements in or on lustres, chandeliers, and lamps, of various descriptions, and in the manner of conveying gas to the same. February 6.

WILLIAM CLARK, Bath, Esq. for a contrivance called a safeguard to locks, applicable to locks in general, by which they may be so secured as to defy the attempts of plunderers using pick-locks or false keys. February 8.

ROBERT HARDY, Worcester, iron-founder, for improvements in the manufacturing of cast iron bushes or pipe boxes for chaise, coach, waggon, and all other sorts of carriage-wheels. February 20.

RICHARD LITHERLAND, Liverpool, watchmaker, for improvements in or on the escapement of watches. February 20.

RICHARD HOLDEN, Stafford Street, St Mary-le-bonne, gentleman, for machines for producing rotatory and pendulous motion in a new manner. February 20.

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BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Acts passed in the 57th Year of the Reign of Geo. III. or in the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Cap. I. *To continue and extend the Provisions of an Act of the Forty-ninth Year of his present Majesty, for regulating the Trade and Commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope, until the 5th day of July 1820; and also for regulating the Trade of the Island of Mauritius.*—Feb. 24, 1817.

Trade to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, to be regulated by Order in Council.—Goods imported or exported contrary to Order in Council, forfeited, as also the vessels.—East India Company's rights not to be affected.

Cap. II. *For raising the sum of* TWENTY-FOUR MILLIONS, *by Exchequer Bills, for the Service of the Year* 1817.—Feb. 24.

The Treasury may raise L. 24,000,000 by Exchequer bills, in like manner as is prescribed by 48 Geo. III. cap. I.—Treasury to apply the money so raised.—To be payable out of *the Supplies for the next Session.*—To bear an interest not exceeding 3½d. per cent. per diem.—To be current at the Exchequer after April 5, 1818.—Bank of England may advance L. 15,000,000 on the credit of this Act, notwithstanding the Act 5 and 6 Gul. and Mariæ.

Cap. III. *To empower his Majesty to secure and detain such Persons as his Majesty shall suspect are conspiring against his Person and Government.*—March 4.

That all or any person or persons that are or shall be in prison within that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, at or upon the day on which this Act shall receive his Majesty's royal assent, or after, by warrant of his said Majesty's most honourable Privy Council, signed by six of the said Privy Council, for high treason, suspicion of high treason, or treasonable practices, or by warrant signed by any of his Majesty's Secretaries of State, for such causes as aforesaid, may be detained in safe custody, without bail or mainprize, until the 1st day of July 1817; and that no judge or justice of the peace shall bail or try any such person or persons so committed, without order from his said Majesty's Privy Council, signed by six of the said Privy Council, until the 1st day of July 1817; any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding.—Act in Scotland of 1701, so far as relates to treason, suspended.—Persons committed there not to be tried, &c. without such order as aforesaid.—From and after the 1st day of July 1817, the said persons so committed shall have the benefit and advantage of all laws and statutes in any way relating to, or providing for, the liberty of the subjects of this realm.—Privileges of Members of Parliament not invalidated.—Persons against whom indictments for high treason are already found, to be tried thereon.—The Secretary of State may order persons committed, to be removed to any other goal; but persons so removed are not to be deprived of right to be tried or discharged.

Cap. IV. *To extend the privileges of the Trade of Malta to the Port of Gibraltar.*—March 4.

Cap. V. *For continuing to his Majesty certain Duties on Malt, Sugar, Tobacco, and Snuff, in Great Britain; and on Pensions, Offices, and Personal Estates in England; and for receiving the Contributions of Persons receiving Pensions and holding Offices; for the Service of the Year* 1817.—March 4.

Sect. 30.—Whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been graciously pleased to direct certain sums to be contributed and paid, from the Civil List revenue, in aid of the public service of the year 1817; and whereas many persons holding offices and places in his Majesty's service, and others having or holding pensions or other emoluments derived from the public, are desirous of contributing proportions of their respective official incomes, salaries, pensions, or other emoluments, for the same purpose; be it therefore enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or any three or more of them, or for the Lord High Treasurer of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being, to issue such directions, for one year, commencing the 5th day of April 1817, to the officers of the Exchequer, and of the several departments of the Civil List of Great Britain respectively, as may be necessary for giving effect to the most gracious intention of his Royal Highness in such contribution, and for executing the intentions of such other persons as aforesaid; and no deduction shall be made, or fee, emolument, or allowance taken, by any person returning, receiving, or paying any such contributions as aforesaid.—Bank of England authorized to advance a certain sum, not exceeding three millions, on the credit of this Act.

Cap. VI. *To make perpetual certain Parts of an Act of the Thirty-sixth Year of his present Majesty, for the Safety and Preservation of his Majesty's Person and Government against Treasonable and Sedi-*

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tious Practices and Attempts; and for the Safety and Preservation of the Person of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent against Treasonable Practices and Attempts.—March 17.

Cap. VII. *To revive and make perpetual Two Acts of the Thirty-seventh Year of his present Majesty, the One in the Parliament of Great Britain, and the Other in the Parliament of Ireland, for the better Prevention and Punishment of Attempts to Seduce Persons serving in his Majesty's Forces by Sea or Land from their Duty and Allegiance to his Majesty, or to incite them to Mutiny or Disobedience.*—March 17.

37 Geo. III. c. 70, and 37 Geo. III. (Irish) revived and made perpetual.

Cap. VIII. *To continue until the 5th day of April 1820, an Act of the Fifty-second Year of his present Majesty, to regulate the Separation of damaged from sound Coffee, and to permit Dealers to send out any quantity of Coffee, not exceeding Eight Pounds weight, without a Permit.*—March 17.

Cap. IX. *For vesting all Estates and Property occupied for the Barrack Service in the Comptroller of the Barrack Department, and for granting certain Powers to the said Comptroller.*—March 17.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Sir William Garrow, Attorney-General, to be a Puisne Baron of Exchequer, vice Sir R. Richards.

Sir Samuel Shepherd, Solicitor-General, to be Attorney-General, vice Sir William Garrow.

Robert Gifford, Esq. to be Solicitor-General, vice Sir S. Shepherd.

G. F. Beltze, Esq. to be Portcullis Pursuivant of Arms.

July 1.—Knighthood conferred on John Evans, Esq. High Sheriff of Middlesex.

2.—Knighthood conferred on W. H. Robinson, Esq. Commissary-General to his Majesty's Forces in Canada.

16.—The Duke of Wellington granted the royal license to wear the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Sicilian Military Order of St Ferdinand and of Merit, and also of a Knight of the Royal Sicilian Order of St Januarius, given by the King of the Two Sicilies.

22.—The Right Hon. Edward Thornton to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of his Most Faithful Majesty;—and

The Hon. Francis Reginald Forbes to be Secretary to his Majesty's Legation at that Court.

30.—Mr Planta to be Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, vice Mr Cook, resigned.

Aug. 2.—The Prince Regent has, by letters patent, authorized Lord Bathurst to exercise all the rights and privileges belonging to a Knight of the Garter, as fully as if he had been formally installed.

16.—The Hon. William Maule, Admiral of the coast from Broughty Castle to the Tod Head, has appointed James Burnes, writer in Montrose, his deputy.

Members returned to Parliament.

Sir Samuel Shepherd for Dorchester.

Robert Gifford, Esq. for Eye, vice Sir William Garrow.

Edmond Wodehouse, Esq. for Norfolk, vice Sir J. H. Astley, deceased.

July 28.—The Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, for Harwich.

Aug. 1.—The Hon. J. P. Vereker, for the city of Limerick.

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

July 17.—The Associate congregation of North Leith gave an unanimous call to the Rev. John Brown of Biggar, to be their pastor.

31.—Mr Gavin Struthers, preacher of the gospel, was ordained assistant and successor to the Rev. James Stewart, Minister of the Relief Congregation, Anderston.

Aug. 8.—His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Lewis Rose to be minister of the church and parish of Nigg, Presbytery of Tain, vacant by the death of Mr Alexander Macadam.

Oxford, Aug. 16.—Friday se'ennight, the Bishop of Oxford was admitted warden of All Soul's College, with the usual ceremonies, in the room of the Rev. Edmund Isham, D. D. deceased.

At a private Ordination, holden by the Lord Bishop of Kildare, Thomas Grantham, M. A. fellow of Magdalen College, was ordained a Deacon.

18.—The Rev. George Rous, to the Rectory of Laverton, Somerset.

Rev. F. S. Wall, to the vicarage of Stoke, St Milbro', Salop.

Rev. —— Winnington, to the vicarage of Clifton-upon-Teame, Herefordshire.

Rev. James Sparrow, to the Rectory of Hemlock, Devon.

The Rev. George Frederic Tavel, A. M. to the Rectory of Campsey Ash, in Suffolk.

Sunday se'ennight, the following gentlemen were ordained in the parish church at Kendal, Westmoreland, by the Bishop of Chester:—

Deacons,—John Wm. Trevor, B. A. St John's College; Robert Brade Brocklebank, B. A. and John William Sinclair, B. A. of Trinity College, Cambridge; Henry Richardson, John Master Waller, Jeffrey Hebdon, James Hayes, Joseph Docker, and Humphrey Brown, Literates.

Priests,—John Thomas Bowe, B. A. Richard Moore, A. M. Christopher Barnes, Wm. Rigg, John Douglas, Literates.

III. MILITARY.

The 15th Foot to bear the words "Martinique" and "Guadaloupe" on its colours and appointments.

The 67th Foot to bear the word "Barrosa" on its colours and appointments.

The 74th Foot to bear the words "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Orthes," and "Toulouse," on its colours and appointments.

The Royal Scots to bear the words "Busaco," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "St Sebastian," "Nive," "Peninsula," and "Waterloo," on its colours and appointments.

The 34th Foot, "Vittoria."

2 L. G. Cornet and Sub-Lt. T. Marten to be Lieut. by purch. vice Meares, 18 F. 25 June 1817

G. Greenwood, to be Cornet and Sub-Lt. vice Marten do.

2 D. G. Lieut. C. Kearney, to be Capt. by purch. vice Hunter retires. 19th do.

Cornet J. G. Green, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Kearney, prom. 3d July

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5 D. G. Cornet Charles Drury, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Stewart, prom. 19th June
Jocelyn Willey, to be Cornet by purch. vice Drury 19th June
6 Lieut. R. Christie, to be Capt. by purch. vice Brunskill, retires 3d July
2 Dr Lieut. James Gape, to be Capt. by purch. vice Bt. Major Vernon, retires 19th June
Cornet A. Trotter, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Gape do.
W. H. Oram, to be Cornet by purch. vice Trotter do.
6 Cornet H. Casalet, from 4 Dr. to be Lt. by purch. vice Biddulf, prom. 26th do.
H. E. Porter, to be Cornet by purch. vice Smith, prom. 3d July
S. A. H. Lucas, to be Cornet by purch. vice Armstrong, prom. do.
10 Capt. H. R. C. Stapylton, to be Major by purch. vice Lowther, 12 F. 19th June
Lieut. E. F. Meynell, to be Capt. by purch. vice Stapylton do.
Cornet Wm. Gale, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Meynell 26th do.
Hon. R. Watson, to be Cornet by purch. vice Gale do.
12 P. N. De Cartaret, to be Cornet by purch. vice Mayne, 1 Life Guards 19th June
18 Serj.-Major John Collins, to be Quart.-Master, vice Tarleton, ret. h. p. 12th do.
19 John Hall, to be Cornet by purch. vice Dungan, prom. do.
3 F. G. Lieut. W. L. Forster, to be Lieut. & Capt. vice Lake, resigns 26th do.
Ensign G. R. Abercromby, from 51 F. to be Ensign and Lieut. vice Forster do.
13 F. Lieut. John Baxter, to be Capt. vice Keppock, dead 12th June
Ensign Luke Prior, to be Lieut. vice Baxter do.
C. U. Trippe, to be Ensign by purch. vice Vernon, 1 F. G. 11th do.
Serj.-Maj. J. K. Leith, to be Adj. and Ensign, vice Priestley, res. Adj. only 12th do.
Assist. Surg. W. Morrison, to be Surg. vice O'Hara, dead do.
Hosp. Assist. J. Ligertwood, to be Assist. Surg. vice Morrison do.
John Hendrick, from Donegal Mil. to be Assist. Surg. vice Martin, res. 3d July
15 Lieut. H. Temple, to be Capt. by purch. vice Spread, retires do.
25 Edward Gilbert, to be Ensign, vice Pigott, dead do.
37 Major G. Burer, to be Lieut.-Col. by purch. vice James, retires do.
51 Frederick Matthews, to be Ensign, vice Abercromby, 3 F. G. 26th June
59 Ensign J. Howe, from 80 F. to be Ensign, 19th do.
62 J. M. Caldecott, to be Ensign by purch. vice Reid, retires 24th do.
69 Lieut. Col. G. Mutlebury, from h. p. to be Lieut. Col. vice Robbins, dead 3d July
80 Lieut. H. Stoddart, to be Capt. vice Thome, dead do.
84 Ensign E. Woolhouse, to be Lt. by purch. vice Croker, prom. 26th June
T. H. Powell, to be Ensign by purch. vice Woolhouse do.
Rifl. Br. 2d Lieut. W. Shaw, to be 1st Lieut. vice Bennet, dead do.
W. Curtis, to be 2d Lieut. vice Shaw do.
W. I. R. Arthur Meyer, to be Ensign, vice Hunt, Royal African Corps 12th June
R. Afr. C. Ensign J. Adamson, to be Lieut. vice Steret, dead 11th do.
—— H. B. Adams, to be Lieut. vice M'Rae, dead 12th do.
—— E. Hunt, from I. W. I. R. to be Ensign, vice Adamson 11th do.
Wm. Meares, to be Ensign, vice Adams 12th do.
Lieut. J. Adamson, to be Adj. vice Gray, resigns Adjt. only 3d July
R. Y. R. Lt. Edwards, to be Capt. vice White, dead 19th June
Ensign J. Eager, to be Lieut. vice Edwards do.
Ensign and Adjut. W. Firebrace, rank of Lieut. 20th do.
Ensign Thomas Acome, to be Lieut. vice M'Lennon, dead 3d July
R. Y. R. Gent. Cadet G. Taylor, to be Ensign, vice Eager 19th June
G. T. Ridsdale, to be Ensign, vice Acome 3d July
R. W. I. Ran. Ens. G. Flood, to be Lieut. vice Stewart, dead do.
Canad. Fen. Capt. J. M. Wallace, from 23d Dr. to be Maj. by purch. vice De Haren, retires 1st January
Brevet Major W. M. Leake of R. Art. to be Lt. Col. in the Army 4th June 1813
5 D. G. Cornet Wm. Locke, to be Lieut. by purch. J. Gardiner, to be Cornet by purch. vice Watson, prom. 10th July 1817
Ass. Surg. D. M'Gregor, fm. 56 F. to be Assist. Surg. vice Speer, ret. upon h. p. do.
4 Dr. Thomas Harrison, to be Cornet by purch. vice Casalet, prom. 6 Dr. do.
10 John Trollope, to be Cornet by purch. vice Brown, retires do.
23 Lieut. C. Bacon, to be Capt. by purch. vice Wallace, Canadian Fenc. do.
Cornet S. C. Simpson, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Bacon do.
24 Cornet W. H. West, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Proctor, prom. do.
6 F. Ensign T. Holyoake, from h. p. 58 F. to be Ens. vice Edwards, ex. rec. diff. do.
16 Lieut. Wm. Orr, from h p. to be Lieut. vice Hasleham, ex. do.
31 Capt. W. H. Milles, from h. p. to be Capt. vice Elder, ex. rec. diff. do.
50 Ensign T. Edwards, from h. p. 85 F. to be Ensign, vice Lumsden, ex. do.
53 Lieut. A. F. Gregory, from 4 Dr. to be Capt. by purch. vice Fernandez, ret. do.
60 F. Qrt. Mast. J. Kiens, from h. p. to be Qrt. Mast. vice Burrough, ex. do.
68 Lieut. G. E. Scott, from h. p. 52, to be Lieut. vice Grant, ex. do.
77 —— W. J. H. Bowen, h. p. to be Lieut. vice Cameron, ex. rec. diff. do.
79 Capt. F. Langley, from 82 F. to be Capt. vice Bruce, ex. do.
82 —— W. Bruce, from 79 F. to be Capt. vice Langley, ex. do.
87 Lieut. John Carrol, from h. p. to be Lieut. vice Fennel, ex. do.
88 —— George Hill, from h. p. to be Lieut. vice Mahon, ex. rec. diff. do.
91 Paym. J. Fairfowl, from h. p. to be Paym. vice Campbell, ret. upon h. p. do.

Staff.

Hosp. Assist. J. Cousins, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. to the Forces, vice Sibbald, canc. do.
Limerick, Lieut. T. Walsh, 2 W. I. R. to be Town Maj. vice Fitzgerald, dead 19th June
Staff Surg. W. Wallace, from h. p. to be Surg. to the Forces, vice Rodgers, ret. on h. p. 25th do.
Hosp. Assist. A. Cumming, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. to the Forces 12th do.
—— J. Sibbald, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— J. L. Warren, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— J. Robertson, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— Peter Lamond, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— Robert Sillery, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— David Ewing, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. do.
—— Alex. Boyd, from h. p. to be Hosp. Assist. do. vice Oswald, dead do.

Exchanges.

Brevet Major Marisy, from 1 F. rec. diff. with Capt. Wetherall, h. p.
Capt. Chapman, from 6 Dr. with Capt. Gardiner, 50 F.
—— Webb, from 12 Dr. rec. diff. with Capt. Goldsmid, h. p. 72 F.
—— Warren, from 18 F. rec. diff. with Capt. Hammill, h. p. 7. F.
—— Colley, from 45 F. rec. diff. with Capt. Gordon, h. p. 1 F.
—— Andrews, from Rifle Brigade, rec. diff. with Capt. Pattenson, h. p. 43 F.
—— Sir John Cox, from 2d Life Gds. rec. diff. with Capt. Meares, h. p. 18 F.
—— Barry, from 75 F. rec. diff. with Captain M'Adam, h. p.

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Lieut. Falkner, from 4 Dr. Gds. rec. diff. with Lieut. Ravenhill, h. p. 1 Dr. Gds.
——— M'Culloch, from 32 F. rec. diff. with Lieut Oliver, h. p. 5 F.
——— Vickers, from Rifle Brigade, rec. diff. with Lieut. Twigg, h. p. 3 F.
——— D'Arcy, from 13 Dr. rec. diff. with Lieut. Stopford, h. p. 101 F.
——— Boase, from 22 F. rec. diff. with Lieut. Monro, h. p. 94 F.
——— Stapleton, from 47 F. rec. diff. with Lieut. Lane, h. p. 41 F.
——— Conry, from 90 F. with Lieut. Shaw, h. p. 52 F.
——— Waymouth, from 2 Life Gds. rec. diff. with Visc. Barnard, h. p. 7 Dr.
——— J. W. Bacon, from 9 Dr. rec. diff. with Charles Bacon, h. p. 11 Dr.
——— Hudson, from 2 F. rec. diff. with Lieut. Clunes, h. p. 27 F.
——— West, from 3 F. with Lieut. James, 58 F.
———Stannus, from 9 Dr. rec. diff. with Lieut. Maberly, h. p. 7 Dr.
——— Masters, from 30 F. rec. diff. with Lieut. Rogers, h. p.
Lieut. Baillie, from 30 F. rec. diff. with Lieut. Jas. Poyntz, h. p.
2d Lieut. Campbell, from Rifle Brigade, with Ensign Ward, h. p. 71 F.
Ensign Gordon, from 25 F. with Ensign Morris h. p.
——— Mathewson, from 8 F. with Ensign Mawdesley, 65 F.
Surgeon Corfield, from 17 F. with Surgeon Maxton, h. p. 38 F.
Staff Surg. Thompson, from full pay, with Surg. Dakers, h. p.

Resignations and Retirements.

Lieut. Col. James, 37 F.
Major Vernon, 2 Dr.
——— De Haren, late Canadian Fene.
Capt. Hunter, 2 Dr. Gds.
——— Brunskill, 5 do.
——— Lake, 3 F. G.
——— Spread, 15 F.
Lieut. Tracey, 25 F.
——— Gallaher, 103 F.
——— Ensign Reid, 62 F.
Assist. Surg. Martin, 12 F.

IV. NAVAL.

Promotions.

Names.	Names.
Superannuated Commander.	Lieutenants.
William Anderson.	William Neville
	John Wildey

Appointments.

Names.	Ships.	Names.	Ships.
Lieutenants.		Josiah Oake	R. George, yacht
Charles S. Cochrane	Blossom	Jos. Perriam	Tyne
Wm. W. West	Ditto	Surgeons.	
Edward Hibbert	Ganymede	James Wilson (2)	Blossom
Tho. Hastings	Icarus	Pearce Power	Helicon
J. F. Appleby	Queen Charlotte	M. Power	Icarus
W. J. Mingay	R. George, yacht	M. Burnside	Tyne
Hon. W. Waldegrave	Ditto	Assistant Surgeons.	
Thomas Marshall	Spencer	Charles Inches	Blossom
Wynne Baird	Tyne	John Campbell	Brazen
Marines.		Jer. Riordan	Florida
Capt. H. W. Cresswell	Rochfort	Daniel Campbell	Icarus
——— N. H. English	Spencer	Wm. Watt (2)	Racoon
2d Lieut. Edward Capel	Queen Charlotte	George Black	Tyne
Masters.		Chaplains.	
Rob. Thomson (2)	Blossom	Robert Willis	Forth
Ed. Hankin	Icarus	Robert Brown	Leander

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

It may perhaps be necessary, for the satisfaction of our readers, to explain the manner in which the daily observations are registered in the table from which the following abstract is taken. The table contains 18 columns. In the 1st is entered the highest to which the Thermometer has risen,—and in the 2d, the lowest to which it has sunk, every 24 hours. The 3d contains the actual temperature 10 a. m., and the fourth at 10 p. m. In the 5th is entered the mean of the highest and lowest; in the 6th the mean of 10 a. m. and 10 p. m. and in the 7th the mean of the 5th and 6th; *i. e.* the mean of 4 daily observations. The next 6 columns are occupied with the Barometer, the 8th containing the temperature of the Mercury, and the 9th the pressure at 10 a. m.; the 10th and 11th containing the same for 10 p. m.; and the 12th and 13th the means of the preceding 4. The last 5 columns are allotted to the Hygrometer,—the 14th containing the daily quantity of rain,—the 15th the quantity of evaporation for every 5 days,—the 16th the state of Leslie's Hygrometer at 10 a. m.—the 17th the same 10 p. m.—and the 18th the mean of the preceding two. On the opposite page of the table are columns for the force and direction of the winds, the moon's phases, and general remarks. The self-registering Thermometers are adjusted every morning at 10 o'clock, that is, the index in each is brought to the actual temperature at that time,—of course, the day is supposed to begin at 10 a. m. In the following abstract is given the mean of each column as explained above, together with the extremes of the Thermometer, Barometer, and Hygrometer, during the period comprehended in the Report. An attempt was made to render the Table more complete by registering Lind's Anemometer, but the results were found so very unsatisfactory, that the attempt was abandoned. We hope to be able, at a future period, to present our readers with the results of observations on the Anemometer invented by Professor Leslie, the only

philosophical instrument of the kind that has hitherto been devised. In stating the number of fair and rainy days, every day is reckoned fair when the rain does not amount to one hundredth of an inch; and in giving the greatest and least mean daily evaporation, it is to be understood as applicable to a period of five days, as the evaporating basin is examined only every fifth day. Of course, the method of measuring evaporation by a basin does not give the actual amount evaporated from a place exposed to the free action of the wind, but for comparing one month or one year with another, it appears both the simplest method and the best, if indeed not the only practicable one.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

From 16th JULY to 15th AUGUST 1817, inclusive.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	62.63
. . . . . cold,	48.205
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	57.801
. . . . . 10 P. M.	52.708
. . . of daily extremes,	55.443
. . . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	55.254
. . . 4 daily observations,	55.348

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 59)	29.521
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 59)	29.540
. . . both, (temp. of mer. 59)	29.530

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	24.026
. . . 10 P. M.	10.264
. . . both,	17.145
Rain in Inches,	3.445
Evaporation in ditto,	2.137
Fair days 12; rainy days 19,	
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	19
. from E. side of meridian, including S.	12

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Greatest heat, July 25th,	66.500
Greatest cold, August 10th	43.000
Highest 10 A. M. July 23d,	63.000
Lowest ditto, August 3d,	52.500
Highest 10 P. M. July 21st,	57.500
Lowest ditto, July 19th,	49.000

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. July 29th,	29.885
Lowest ditto, August 13th,	29.010
Highest 10 P. M. July 23d,	29.950
Lowest ditto, August 19th,	29.080

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. July 29th,	40.000
Lowest ditto, August 3d,	7.000
Highest 10 P. M. July 24th,	25.000
Lowest ditto, August 11th,	4.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, 3d August,	0.580
Least ditto, 15th August	0.008
Greatest mean daily evap. 21st to 26th July	0.086
Least ditto, 1st to 5th August,	0.036

General character of the period: cloudy, rainy, and cold, with very little sunshine.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Calton-hill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day, at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

		Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Jul. 15	M.	54	29.197	58	E.	Cloudy.
	E.	54	.531	58		
16	M.	53	.455	58	N. E.	Fair.
	E.	56	.558	58		
17	M.	54	.558	58	N. W.	Fair.
	E.	55	.558	55		
18	M.	52	.578	59	N. W.	Cloudy, with showers.
	E.	56	.606	60		
19	M.	54	.666	60	N.	Fair.
	E.	55	.662	64		
20	M.	59	.636	64	Cble.	Fair.
	E.	58	.526	62		
21	M.	60	.408	63	S. W.	Showers.
	E.	58	.199	63		
22	M.	59	.282	62	S. W.	Showers.
	E.	58	.453	63		
23	M.	58	.600	63	W.	Fair.
	E.	60	.828	65		
24	M.	56	.765	63	E.	Fair.
	E.	58	.653	63		
25	M.	58	.427	61	S. W.	Fair foren. rain aftern.
	E.	58	.558	63		
26	M.	56	.269	60	W.	Cloudy, with showers.
	E.	56	.129	61		
27	M.	57	.128	62	W.	Cloudy, with showers.
	E.	55	.165	60		
28	M.	55	.242	61	W.	Rain.
	E.	52	.428	56		
29	M.	55	.511	60	N. W.	Showers.
	E.	54	.475	59		
30	M.	55	.418	59	W.	Rain.
	E.	54	.541	60		
Jul. 31	M.	55	29.280	59	W.	Showers.
	E.	54	.540	59		
Aug. 1	M.	57	.457	60	Cble.	Fair foren. rain aftern.
	E.	52	.582	58		
2	M.	55	.604	59	N. W.	Showers evening.
	E.	55	.602	58		
3	M.	53	.188	57	Cble.	Showers.
	E.	54	.188	58		
4	M.	54	.262	58	Cble.	Rain foren. fair aftern.
	E.	52	.575	59		
5	M.	56	.715	60	W.	Frost morn. warm after.
	E.	55	.715	59		
6	M.	57	.688	60	N. W.	Fair.
	E.	57	.665	60		
7	M.	56	.554	60	S. W.	Fair.
	E.	57	.414	60		
8	M.	53	.260	59	Cble.	Showers.
	E.	52	.116	57		
9	M.	49	.102	57	N. W.	Showers.
	E.	57	.263	54		
10	M.	54	.404	57	Cble.	Showers.
	E.	52	.503	56		
11	M.	52	.438	56	Cble.	Rain aftern.
	E.	53	.102	55		
12	M.	57	28.972	58	N. W.	Rain foren.
	E.	56	.970	60		
13	M.	54	.832	59	Cble.	Showers.
	E.	53	.968	58		
14	M.	54	29.169	58	Cble.	Showers.
	E.	59	28.975	61		
15	M.	58	.970	61	N. W.	Rain morn.
	E.	54	29.315	59		

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State of the Barometer, from July 26th to August 25th, 1817, *at Barnton, about Three Miles N. W. from Edinburgh.*

1817.	Barom.	Thermo. M. N.	Rain. In. P.	Weather.	1817.	Barom.	Thermo. M N.	Rain. In. P.	Weather.
July 26	29.65	50 64	0.05	Rain	Aug. 11	29.9	46 55	0.19	Clear
27	.65	49 60		Clear	12	.51	50 62	0.05	Rain
28	.7	48 62		ditto	13	.42	50 60	0.2	ditto
29	.81	50 64		ditto	14	.65	49 60	0.41	ditto
30	.9	47 60	0.08	Rain	15	.5	48 62	0.02	ditto
31	.78	48 53	0.05	ditto	16	.75	49 60	0.03	ditto
Aug. 1	.9	43 55		Clear	17	.84	50 64	0.01	ditto
2	30.05	47 60		ditto	18	.95	48 60		Clear
3	29.64	46 58	0.22	Rain	19	.75	50 70		ditto
4	.71	45 60	0.31	ditto	20	.8	55 68	0.03	Rain
5	30.14	46 57		Clear	21	30.15	52 66		Clear
6	.1	47 56		ditto	22	.21	50 60		ditto
7	.05	48 56		ditto	23	.20	47 65		ditto
8	29.75	46 55	0.06	Rain	24	.08	49 58	0.4	Showers
9	.1	43 57	0.03	Showers	25	29.71	48 55	0.35	Rain
10	.85	47 58	0.02	ditto					
							Quantity of Rain,	2.57	

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

It seldom happens that weather prevails, during two seasons successively, so much alike as we have experienced in the spring and summer of 1816 and of 1817. The cold, wet summer and unpropitious harvest of 1799, was followed, in 1800, by so warm and dry a season, as, though scarcely less favourable to the crops, produced a striking contrast in regard to their earliness and perfect maturation. No such remarkable difference between this year and the former has yet been felt. A late spring has consigned to a cold and wet summer, in both years, the infant produce of the earth, in a feeble and unhealthy state; and a late harvest, though there is still reason to hope not in the present year a scanty one, has been and must be the consequence. With the exception of two weeks in June, the atmosphere has seldom, for two days together, been so clear, warm, and refreshing, as we often find it, even in this northern climate; yet the superabundance of moisture occasioned a most rapid vegetation, which requires only to be succeeded by heat and sunshine for a few weeks to insure an abundant produce in all those situations where the seed was sound, and the young plants escaped any serious injury from the grub. The instances, however, are too numerous, particularly in the higher districts, where the oat crop threatens to be as late as that of last year. In the south of England, reaping has commenced, and will soon be general; but though we hear of several patches having been cut, and see many fields approaching towards ripeness, harvest will make little progress before the middle of next month in this country.

Among the grain crops no such difference can yet be perceived as so lamentably occurred last year, in which wheat was greatly deficient even in those favourable situations where barley and oats fell little short of an average produce. All these species of grain promise to be, in favourable circumstances, almost equally productive, or at least are nearly alike luxuriant in their growth; nor have any of the diseases to which wheat is peculiarly liable been so marked as to excite any alarm or apprehension. The pulse crops do not in general promise to be abundant. Turnips and potatoes, particularly the latter, of which a greater quantity than usual were planted last spring, are expected to be full crops upon all dry and well-dressed lands. The earlier crops of clover and rye grass hay were in many instances light, from the clover having been checked in its growth by the drought and coldness of the spring; and the later crops have been saved with difficulty, and at an increased expence, owing to the frequent rains of the last month. Orchards and hop-grounds will not yield half a crop, and in many situations have failed altogether.

About the middle of June, the prices of grain, which had fluctuated during the six preceding months, according to the variations in our imports and exports, began to decline, owing to the very remarkable change which the fine weather then began to effect in the appearance of the growing crops; and the supply having been more than equal to the demand ever since, especially since we ceased to export to France, prices have continued to fall; though of late much more slowly than in July. If fine weather does not speedily ensue, it is not probable that they will sink much lower. The very remarkable difference between the average prices of England and of Scotland, exhibited in the following Tables, has prevailed ever since last harvest, which, if any thing like accuracy could be depended on in these returns, would prove that the last wheat crop had failed more generally in regard to quality in the latter country than in the former.—Live stock, with the exception of Lambs, have been in demand, at improved prices, owing to the abundance of the pastures since the end of June.—Wool has been sold freely at higher prices than last year; and very little of it now remains in the hands of the grower.

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The following Tables have been constructed for the purpose of exhibiting, in a more distinct and comprehensive manner than has yet been attempted in any similar work, the weekly prices of agricultural produce in the principal markets of both the east and west of Britain, and must be valuable to agriculturists and mercantile men generally. The weekly averages of England, and of the Maritime Districts, and the monthly averages of Scotland, together with the Aggregate Averages by which importation is regulated, will form, we venture to hope, a useful record for reference to all who take an interest in the discussion of those questions of Political Economy which relate to the subsistence of the people.

25th August.

CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817	Wheat. Boll	Wheat. Prices	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Juar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck	1817.	Oat meal. Boll	Oat meal. Peck.	Ba. & P. meal. Bolls.	Ba. & P. meal. Peck.
		s. s.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.			s. d.		s. d.
July 30	453	22 46	34 11	— —	27 30	28 32 0	14	20	July 29	379	2 0	—	1 6
Aug. 6	539	21 47	39 7	— —	28 36	27 32 6	14	18	Aug. 5	429	2 0	—	1 6
13	551	25 64	37 10	— —	28 39	28 32 0	14	16	12	498	2 1	—	1 6
20	375	27 51	37 10	— —	28 38	27 31 0	14	12	19	483	2 1	—	1 5

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	Wheat, 240 lbs. For. red.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Oats, 264 lbs. Scots.	Oats, 264 lbs. Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Barley, 320 lbs. Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stir. Mea.	Oatmeal 140 lbs.	Flour 280 lbs.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
July 30	48 53	46 52	32 60	30 35	28 36	34 37	32 40	30 38	30 35	30 32	85 90
Aug. 6	48 55	48 52	32 60	30 35	28 36	34 37	32 40	30 38	30 35	30 32	85 90
13	48 55	46 52	32 60	30 35	28 36	34 37	32 40	30 38	30 35	30 32	85 90
20	48 55	46 52	32 60	30 35	28 36	34 37	32 46	30 38	30 35	30 35	85 90

Haddington.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Wheat. Prices.	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Aug. 1	699	17 45 8	35 8	24 36	22 36	25 33	25 33
8	765	18 65 6	35 10	40 0	28 38	28 37	27 33
15	668	15 46 0	31 10	24 31	30 40	30 38	30 38
22	554	17 45 0	32 10	32 38	26 38	26 34	36 34

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Oatmeal. Per Peck.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d.
Aug. 4	28 6 30 6	1 11
11	28 6 31 0	1 11
18	29 6 31 9	2 0
25	29 0 32 0	2 0

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pol.	Oats. Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Beans. Tick.	Pease. B ling.	Pease. Grey.	Flour, 280lb. Fine.	Flour, 280lb. 2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
July 28	50 106	40 54	28 45	17 41	37 45	40 62	38 56	40 50	42 48	90 95	75 85	15½
Aug. 4	50 106	40 54	28 45	17 41	37 45	40 62	38 56	40 45	42 48	90 0	75 85	15½
11	50 104	40 48	28 44	16 40	36 44	40 62	38 56	40 45	42 48	90 0	75 85	15½
18	50 104	40 48	28 44	15 39	37 49	40 62	38 56	40 45	42 48	80 0	63 75	14

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb.	Flour. Irish.	Flour. Amer. 196 lb.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Scots.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Irish.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
July 22	8 0 16 6	4 9 6 6	6 0 7 6	60 65	50 70	70 84	75 80	— —	46 58	54 55	50 52	48 50
29	7 0 13 0	4 3 5 6	5 6 7 0	56 60	45 65	65 80	65 75	— —	39 50	52 53	48 50	46 48
Aug. 5	7 0 13 0	4 3 5 6	5 0 6 6	56 60	45 65	65 80	65 75	— —	39 51	46 48	44 46	42 44
12	7 0 13 0	4 3 5 6	5 0 6 6	56 60	45 65	65 80	65 75	— —	37 51	46 48	44 46	42 44

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans	Pease.	Oatm. 140lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
July 19	100 0	61 5	49 5	37 5	50 10	51 10	45 1
26	94 4	59 4	47 1	35 5	48 8	49 11	42 11
Aug. 2	90 4	55 8	46 7	34 4	49 4	48 7	41 11
9	87 6	53 10	45 9	34 6	49 4	46 3	41 [illegible]

Maritime Districts.

Dts.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
12	105 0	63 4	54 7	37 6	53 0	52 6
19	99 2	61 1	50 2	37 3	49 0	49 6
26	94 7	58 2	49 2	34 9	47 8	46 11
2	90 9	56 1	48 7	33 5	45 11	43 0

Aggregate Averages, (Aug. 9.) of the Twelve Maritime Districts of England and Wales, by which *Importation* and *Duty* is to be regulated in Great Britain.

Wheat, 96s. 11d.—Rye, 59s. 10d.—Barley, 49s. 3d.—Oats, 36s. 4d.—Beans, 49s. 10d. Pease 50s. 8d. Oatmeal, 42s.

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th July.

Wheat, 78s. 9d.—Rye, 69s. 9d.—Barley, 50s. 3d.—Oats, 45s. 5d.—Beans, 64s. 10d.—Pease, 64s. 8d.—Oatmeal, 38s. 5d.—Bear or Big, 46s. 2d.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COLONIAL PRODUCE.—*Sugars* in the beginning of the month were in brisk demand, and consequently obtained higher prices. On the 5th, large purchases of Muscovadoes were made at an advance of 3s. to 5s., and since then, a great disposition has been evinced to purchase at even a higher currency. Refined sugars had a corresponding rise, and on the 12th advanced generally 2s. to 3s. per cwt. at which advance extensive contracts were made for goods to be delivered some weeks hence. Foreign sugars were also higher, and two bags Bengal sold 4s. to 5s. higher than the preceding week. On the 19th, the market was heavy, with a general reduction of 1s. to 2s *Coffee* has fluctuated since the 5th, at which period most descriptions were selling briskly, at an advance of 3s. to 5s.; and on the 19th, a further advance took place of 2s. per cwt. *Cotton.*—On the 1st instant, an India sale of 8536 bags, chiefly Bengals, attracted great attention, and went off briskly, chiefly to shippers; ordinary went off at an advance of ¾d. to 1¼d., and middling ½d. to ¾d. on the prices of the preceding week; the finer descriptions were little varied—Demerara and Berbice at 20¾d. to 2s. 1½d.; Grenada and Cariscou, 20½d. to 22½d.; Surinams, 2s. to 2s. 1½d. Boweds, 19d. to 20d.; Pernams, 2s. 2d.; Bengals in the house, realized 10½d. to 11½d. On the 8th, accounts from Manchester of a great improvement in Cotton goods and twist, caused considerable briskness in the market; and on that and the following day above 5500 bags changed hands at an advance of ¼d. to ½d. The market still continues brisk. The imports into London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, in July, were 42,487 bags, being 8448 more than those of July last year. *Indigo.*—Purchases of this article continue to be made at a premium of 4d. to 6d. per pound, on the last East India sale prices. *Spices* have experienced no variation in price. *Tobacco.*—The purchases are confined to a few hogsheads for the immediate wants of the trade. *Rum.*—Considerable business has been done, and prices may be generally stated 2d. per gallon higher than at the beginning of the month.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—The continued westerly breezes having prevented the usual arrivals from the Baltic, the supplies have been short. Hemp and Flax, however, have varied little in price; but Tallow has advanced from 6s. to 9s. per cwt. Yellow Candle has realised 62s. *Brandy.*—An advance of 4d. to 6d. per gallon has taken place, owing to unfavourable accounts of the state of the vintage in France. *Geneva* remains without alteration.

British Manufactures.—The accounts from the manufacturing districts of England are most cheering.—"Every branch (says a Manchester paper) of our national manufacture has received an impetus to which it has long been a stranger. At our two last market days, goods have been amazingly in request, and bore a lively advance, evidently the effect of an eager demand."—The demand for Norwich bombazeens is so great, that all the old looms, so long lying useless, have been put in requisition, and many new ones are making. At Tewkesbury, all the stocking frames are in full work; considerable advances have been made in wages; and another rise of 4s. per dozen is expected.

August 20.

Course of Exchange, Aug. 19.—Amsterdam, 38 : 0 B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 6. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Hamburgh, 35 : U. Paris, 3 days sight, 24 : 30 U. Altona, 35 : 1 : 2 U. Dublin, 11.

Prices of Gold and Silver per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, L. 4 : 0 : 6. New doubloons, L. 3 : 19 : 0. New dollars, L.0 : 5 : 2.

Premiums of Insurance at Lloyd's.—Guernsey or Jersey, 15s. 9d.—Cork, Dublin, or Belfast, 15s. 9d. to 20s.—Hamburgh, 12s. 6d.—Madeira, 20s.—Jamaica, 30s. to 35s.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds, from July 14 *to August* 11, 1817.

	July 14th	21st.	28th.	Aug. 4th.	11th.
Bank stock.	291½	292½	281	281	284
3 per cent. reduced,	82¾ 83¼	83½	79⅝	79⅝	81⅛
3 per cent. consols,	82½	82½	78⅜	78¾	81⅜
4 per cent. consols,	101⅜	100¼	96	96	98⅞
5 per cent. navy annuities	107⅜	106¾	103⅓	103⅞	105⅛
Imperial 3 per cent annuities	—	82½	77⅜	—	80
India stock,	242¼	235	231	227	234
—— bonds,	103pr.	108pr.	114 pr.	113 pr.	119 pr.
Exchequer bills, 3¼d.	20pr.	26pr.	20 pr.	33 pr.	29 pr.
Consols for acct.	83 84	82½	79⅜	79⅜	81⅜
American 3 per cents.	65	—	—	—	—
—— new loan, 6 per cents.	103½	—	—	—	—
French 5 per cents.	66	66 1-16th	67⅞	67¾	68⅛

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PRICES CURRENT.—Aug. 16.

	Leith.	Glasgow.	Liverpool.	per
Sugar, *Musc.*				
B. P. Dry Brown, . .	74 @ 78	74 @ 78	69 @ 73	cwt
Mid. good, & fine mid.	80 86	79 90	80 90	
Fine and very fine, . .	88 94	91 93	91 96	
Refined, Double Loaves, . .	150 155	— —	— —	
Powder ditto, ...	124 130	— —	— —	
Single ditto, ...	122 124	120 122	120 126	
Small Lumps, . . .	115 118	114 116	123 126	
Large ditto, ...	114 116	112 114	113 118	
Crushed Lumps, . .	70 —	68 70	70 71	
Molasses, British, . . .	35 —	33 —	37 —	
Coffee, *Jamaica*, . .				
Ord. good, and fine ord.	78 83	82 87	81 89	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	85 100	88 92	90 106	
Dutch, Triage & very ord.	72 82	— —	74 82	
Ord. good, & fine ord.	80 90	80 89	84 90	
Mid. good, & fine mid.	82 100	90 93	92 104	
St Domingo, ...	— —	— —	85 92	
Pimento (in Bond), . . .	7½ —	8 8½	8 8½	lb.
Spirits Jam. Rum 16 O.P.	3s 5d 3s 6d	3s 5 3s 6	3s 4 3s 6	gall.
Brandy, ...	7 6 7 9	— —	— —	
Geneva, ...	3 10 4 0	— —	— —	
Grain Whisky, . . .	7 0 7 3	— —	— —	
Wines, Clar. 1st Growths,	45 5	— —	— —	hhd.
Portugal Red, . .	40 45	— —	— —	pipe.
Spanish White, . .	34 46	— —	— —	butt.
Teneriffe, ...	30 35	— —	— —	pipe.
Madeira, ...	60 70	— —	— —	
Logwood, Jamaica, . .	£7 £8	£7 10 £8 0	£8 0 £8 5	ton.
Honduras, ...	8 9	8 0 —	8 10 8 15	
Campeachy, ...	9 9 10	8 0 9 0	9 0 9 10	
Fustic, Jamaica, . . .	8 10 0	8 10 9 0	10 0 12 0	
Cuba, ...	14 —	— —	15 0 16 10	
Indigo, Caraccas fine, .	9s 6d 11s 6	8s 6 9s 6	9s 0 11s 6	lb.
Timber, Amer. Pine, . .	1 9 2 0	— —	1 7 1 8½	foot.
Ditto Oak, . . .	4 0 4 6	— —	— —	
Christiansand (duties paid)	2 2 2 3	— —	— —	
Honduras Mahogany,	0 11 1 1	0 10 1 8	0 11 1 1	
St Domingo ditto . .	— —	1 2 3 0	2 0 2 6	
Tar, American, ...	— —	14 15	16 0 —	brl.
Archangel, ...	20 21	18 20	19 0 20 0	
Pitch, Foreign, ...	14 —	— —	— —	cwt.
Tallow, Rus. Yel. Candle,	62 —	58 60	59 60	
Home melted, . .	57 —	— —	— —	
Hemp, Riga Rhine, . . .	£43 —	£45 46	£45 —	ton.
Petersburgh Clean, .	42 —	42 44	44 —	
Flax, Riga Th. & Dr. Ra.	61 63	— —	— —	
Dutch, ...	50 120	— —	— —	
Irish, ...	52 53	— —	— —	
Mats, Archangel, . .	£6 0 £6 6	— —	— —	100
Bristles, Peters. Firsts,	16 10 17 0	— —	— —	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl,	63s —	— —	— —	
Montreal ditto, . .	64s 66s	58s 60s	57 60	
Pot.	50s 52s	46s 48s	47s 0 50s 0	
Oil, Whale, ...	Uncertain.	— —	— —	tun.
Cod, ...	55 (p.brl.)—	— —	Uncertain.	
Tobacco, Virg. fine, . .	11½ 12	10½ 11	0 9 0 10	lb.
middling, . .	9½ 10½	9½ 10	0 6 0 6½	
inferior, . .	8 9	8 9	0 5 —	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia,	— —	1 6 1 9	1 6½ 1 9	
Sea Island, fine, . .	— —	2 6 2 8	2 6 2 8	
good, . .	— —	2 5 2 6	2 3 2 5½	
middling, .	— —	2 3 2 4	1 11 2 2	
Demerara and Berbice,	— —	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 1½	
West India . . .	— —	1 7 1 8	1 7½ 1 9	
Pernambuco, . . .	— —	2 1 2 2	2 2 —	
Maranham, .	— —	2 0 2 1	2 0 2 1	

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Alphabetical List of English Bankruptcies, announced between July 15 and August 16, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Abrahams, M. London, merchant
Adlington, J. Chesterfield, draper
Bate, W. Birmingham, victualler
Barker, S. Sheffield, cordwainer
Blackley, H. Sheldwick, grocer
Bleads, J. Chester, umbrella-maker
Busst, J. Aston, gun-barrel-maker
Beoran, L. C. Clifton, baker
Biddle, J. Birmingham, factor
Bourne, J. London, cheese-monger
Byers, A. South Shields, and W. Byers, Mile-End, ship-owners
Chalk, W. New Sarum, baker
Cu..., T. North Shields, ship-owner
Cox, G. M. London, toyman
Cole, J. Plymouth, rope-maker
Cotell, J. Duncombe Mill, North Wraxall, paper-maker
Daman, T. Teddington, farmer
Day, W. New Kent Road, plumber
Davis, C. London, cabinet-maker
Deacon, B. Red Lion Square, Middlesex, earthenwareman
Druitt, G. R. Winchester, linen-draper
Dowsett, S. Borehamwood, silkman
Diggles, G. London, money-scrivener
Donald, J. Abbott Lodge, Westmoreland, cattle-dealer
Elst..n, G. South Shields, ship-owner
Elliot, G. Woodchurch, butcher
Eltonhead, J. Liverpool, spirit-merchant
Eustain, W. Liverpool, wholesale grocer
Farrel, C. Gosport, linen-draper
Fosser, M., H. Cooper, and E. Howard, Southborough Mills, Kent, and London, gun-powder-manufacturers
Fawell, T. St Lukes, Middlesex, surgeon
Fennel, T., and W. Benstead jun. London and Brussels, merchants
Frisby, R. Leicester, horse-dealer
Frewing, J. Blackwater, grocer
Griffiths, W. Beaumaris, currier
Green, W. London, underwriter
Goudie, J. Liverpool, ash-manufacturer
Gompertz, H. Hampstead, merchant
Hazell, G. Saltford, victualler
Hollands, J. Westminster, builder
Hix, J. Godmanchester, draper
Hay, N. London
Hoseason, W. Jamaica, merchant
Humphreys, S. London, merchant
Holt, J. L. Manchester, dealer
Hannums, E. London, ship and insurance broker
Hanbury, C. and W., Shoreditch, distillers
Hissock, E. Abingdon, woollen-draper
Johnston, T. Tynemouth, miller
Kearney, P. Manchester, tailor
Knight, J. Castle Cary, surgeon
Lakeman, D. H. Liverpool, merchant
Lazarus, J. London, watchmaker
Lynch, P. Liverpool, woollen-draper
Lee, W. Rotherhithe, ship-chandler
Lewarn, W. Taunton, carpenter
Lindber, R. London, ship and insurance broker
Mansel, T. Pembroke, apothecary
Murrell, W. London, auctioneer
Morgan, J. Taunton, linen-draper
Mann, J. senior, Templesowerby, tanner
Mosley, J. O. and H. J. Keach, London, toy-manufacturers
Mitchell, J. Finsbury Market, Middlesex, brewer
Mann, J. H. Aveton Gifford, cider-merchant
Meacock, R. Liverpool, ship-chandler
Mycock, H. Manchester, shopkeeper
Nicholls, R. Bath, butcher
Nice, T. London, linen-draper
Northall, W. K. Wolverhampton, schoolmaster
Pardow, G. Coughton, Warwick, needle-maker
Parker, C. W. Halifax, merchant
Phillip, D. London, stationer
Papps, G. Bristol, hosier
Phillips, H. London, coffeehouse-keeper
Parker, W. Halifax, merchant
Plackett, T. Breaston, butcher
Powell, R. Carlisle, innkeeper
Phillips, A., and B. Loser, London, merchants
Ravenscroft, H. London, peruke-maker
Reeve and Leigh, Manchester and London, warehousemen
Rees, W. Bristol, ship-owner
Richards, S. Liverpool, merchant
Roberts, O. Alnwick, Anglesey, shopkeeper
Sandmark, A. London, merchant
Stone, W. Milverton, scrivener
Spall, G. London, coachmaker
Smith, E. Derby, bleacher
Slipper, J. Crostwick, carpenter
Skerring, T. London, builder
Scholefield, N., and T. W. Kershaw, Greenwich, haberdashers
Shaw, J. late of Madeira, now of London, merchant
Salter, J. Halberton, dealer
Salmon, J. Westbury, dealer
Scott, W. Longtown, dealer in bacon
Taylor, G. Gorton, cotton-manufacturer
Waldack, H. London, cheese-monger
Warner, J. Great Wigston, lime and coal merchant
Wise, W. Bath, bookseller
Welton, B. Manchester, tailor
Wilson, J. Hanley, Staffordshire, potter
Wilkinson, T. Southwark, linen draper
Woolstencroft, J. Salford, brewer

Alphabetical List of Scotch Bankruptcies, announced between July 15 and August 15, 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Brown, W. jun. Edinburgh, merchant
Ferguson, P. jun. Glasgow, slater
Guthrie, P. Edinburgh, spirit and porter dealer
Hay, J. Delchirach, Banffshire, merchant
Henderson, D. Linlithgow, merchant
Johnstone, G. Annan, apothecary
Leitch, W. Glasgow, merchant
M'Allaster and Duncan, Glasgow, merchants
M'Clure, W. Kirkcudbright, merchant
M'Intosh, L. Tain, draper
M'Lellan, S. Castle Douglas, merchant
M'Master, E. Traigh of Moror, drover
Monteith, Duncan, and Co. Glasgow, grocers
Murray, M. Bailiehill, sheep-dealer
Russell, D. Durie Foundery, Fifeshire, founder
Rutherford, J. jun. Kelso, merchant-tailor
Stewart, T. Leith and Glasgow, carrier
Thomson, A. Edinburgh, builder
Turnbull, H. Paisley, merchant
White, J. and Co Glasgow, merchants

DIVIDENDS.

Armstrong, R. Greenock, merchant; by W. Ferguson, 78, Trongate, Glasgow, 17th September
Calton Hill Foundery Company, Edinburgh; by Wm. Ford, Caledonian Glasswork there, 13th September
Carrie, J. Arbroath, merchant; by J. Walker, merchant there, 15th September
Christie, A. Aberdeen, merchant by D. Hutcheson, advocate there, 18th August
Cobb, J. Pitcarles, near Bervie, cattle-dealer; by J. Milne, in Warby's Inn, Bervie, 13th Sept.
Crombie, H. and Co. Glasgow, merchants; by A. Lawson, merchant there, 19th September
Crombie, J. Colinsburgh, merchant; by J. Stevenson, merchant, Edinburgh, 16th August
Gladstone, H. Leith, merchant; by T. Thomson, Edinburgh Glasshouses there, 2d September
Gray, D. Kincardine, ship-builder; by J. Turcan, ship-owner there, 15th August
Gray, G. Peterhead, merchant; by Geo. Yeats, advocate in Aberdeen, 17th August
Hutcheon, A., and C. Nicol, Glasgow, merchants; by J. M'Gavin, there, 22d August
Mackenzie, D. Peterhead, merchant; by George Yeats, advocate in Aberdeen, 17th August
Reid, J. Glasgow, cabinet-maker; by A. Lawson, merchant there, 24th September
Shannon, Stewart, and Co. Greenock, and Shannon, Livingston, and Co. Newfoundland; by J. Dunlop, writer in Greenock, 10th August
Swanston, J. and Co. Glasgow, grocers; by J. Ewing, merchant there, 10th October
White, D. of Blair, corn and cattle dealer; by W. Ferguson, Maybole, 5d September

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

May 22. At St Helens, Mrs Vernon, wife of the Rev. B. J. Vernon, a daughter.

July 8. At Marshall Place, Perth, the lady of William Gloag, Esq. of Greenhill, a daughter.

15. At Wootton-hill, near Northampton, the lady of the Hon. and Rev. T. L. Dundas, a daughter.

17. At Mount Pleasant, Thurso, the lady of Capt. D. P. Calder, royal engineers, a son.

20. At Rosiere, near Lyndhurst, the Countess of Errol, a son.

21. At Dysart, Mrs John Barclay, a son.

22. At the Priory, near Dublin, Lady Manners, a son, still-born.

23. At Powfbulis, Stirlingshire, the lady of James Bruce, Esq. a daughter.

— Mrs Macknight, London Street, Edinburgh, a son.

25. At Perth, the lady of James Nairne, Esq. of Dunsinnan, a son.

— Mrs Lyon, Forth Street, Edinburgh, a daughter.

27. The lady of the Hon. Lord Cringletie, a son.

31. At Camis-Eskan, Mrs Dennistoun of Colgrain, a daughter.

August 1. At Mary Bank, the lady of Captain Gallie, late of the 78th regiment, a daughter.

2. At Forgo Lodge, Dumfriesshire, the lady of Pulteney Mein, Esq. a son.

4. The lady of D. Campbell, surgeon, Union Street, Edinburgh, a son.

6. At the West Kirk Manse, Edinburgh, Mrs Dickson, a son.

— At the Earl of Hardwicke's, St James's Square, London, Lady Caroline Cocks, a daughter.

— In Grosvenor Street, London, the lady of J. R. Undy, Esq. a son.

7. At his house in Seymour Place, Mayfair, London, the lady of James Alexander, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

9. At Fisherrow, Mrs Alexander Verner, a daughter.

11. At 29, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, Mrs James Grahame, a daughter.

12. In St James's Square, London, the lady of John Thornton, Esq. a daughter.

13. Mrs Robertson, Hope Street, Leith Walk, a son.

Lately—At Whiteless, parish of Symington, Mrs Hugh Lindsay, a son, being her twelfth child, and first son.

Ann, the wife of Joseph Webb, a poor staymaker, in a cellar at Manchester, was brought to bed of three girls, which were soon after baptized, Elizabeth, Ann, and Maria, and are all well. The father is above 65, and the mother 37, and he has had by this marriage six children, and by a former wife twenty-one.

MARRIAGES.

June 3. At Perth, the Rev. John Johnstone, St Andrews, to Alison, only daughter of the late Mr Alexander Latta, of Jessfield.

July 13. At St Petersburgh, the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia to the Princess Charlotte of Prussia.

21. At Prestonpans, H. F. Cadell, Esq. Cockenzie, to Miss Buchan Sysderff of Ruchlaw.

22. At Balsaggart, Mr John Stewart Ramsay, surgeon, royal navy, to Isabella, youngest daughter of Mr James M'Limont, Balsaggart.

— At St Mary's Chapel, Bath, Major-General Sir John Buchan, K. C. T. S. to Laura, only daughter of Colonel Mark Wilks of Kirby, in the Isle of Man, late Governor of St Helena.

24. William M'Leod Bannatyne, Esq. of Bath, third son of the late General Bannatyne, to Miss Young, only child of Captain Young.

25. At Middleton-house, the Rev. John Hunter, minister of Swinton, to Caroline, second daughter of the late Archibald Mitchelson, Esq. of Middleton.

26. At St George's, Hanover Square, London, Captain William Johnston Campbell, third son of the late Lieut.-General Colin Campbell, to Anna Maria, only daughter of the late Sir Francis Vincent, Bart. of Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey, and formerly his Majesty's Minister to the Republic of Venice.

— At Madron, in Cornwall, Captain Giddy, R. N. to Miss Scobell, daughter of the late Rev. George Pender Scobell, vicar of Sancreed and St Just.

28. At Airly Lodge, near Dundee, William Gourlay, Esq. surgeon in the East India Company's service, to Margaret, daughter of Alexander Balfour, merchant, Dundee.

29. At Edinburgh, John Campbell, Esq. *quartus*, W. S. to Miss Mary Kirkpatrick Campbell, daughter of Alexander Campbell, Esq. late of the Island of Tobago.

August 2. At Limerick, J. F. Hamilton, Esq. of Westport, to the Hon. Georgina Vereker, second daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Gort.

4. At Kettlehouse, Fifeshire, Robert Ballinghal, Esq. of Burnturk, to Margaret, eldest daughter of the Rev. Peter Barclay.

5. At Dundee, Alexander Ramsay, M. D.

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to Miss Jean Blair, daughter of David Blair, Esq. of Cookstone.

5. Frederick Johnston, Esq. to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Captain and Lady Elizabeth Halliday.

6. At Haddington, James Ferguson, Esq. of Kimnundy, to Emily, daughter of the Rev. Robert Chalmers, Haddington.

— At Edinburgh, Mr Hugh Handyside, St Patrick Square, to Isabella, daughter of the late Peter Martin, Esq. Belleville.

7. At Edinburgh, the Rev. William Robertson, minister of Laggan, to Margaret, eldest daughter of James Robertson, Esq. W. S.

— At Sanda-house, Lieut.-Colonel James Fullarton, C. B. rifle brigade, son of the late Lewis Fullarton, Esq. of Kilmichael, to Jane Johnston, daughter of Colin Maclarty, Esq. M. D. of Chestervale, Jamaica.

9. At Edinburgh, Alexander Cadenhead, Esq. advocate in Aberdeen, to Jane, daughter of Dr Shirrefs.

11. At North Berwick, Francis James Adam, Esq. youngest son of the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Commissioner Adam, to Mary, daughter of his Excellency General Poitaratzky.

— At Carriage-hill, near Paisley, Mr Robert Spiers, Parkhouse, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Robert Braid, Esq.

— At Stranraer, Colonel M'Nair, 90th regiment of foot, to Anne, only daughter of William Ross, Esq. Collector of his Majesty's Customs there.

15. At Edinburgh, George Turnbull, of St Bathan's, Esq. W. S. to Grace, youngest daughter of the late James Brunton, of Lugton Bridgend, Esq.

Lately—Lord Viscount Ebrington, to Lady Susan Ryder, eldest daughter of the Earl of Harrowby.

At Fantington Church, John Douglas, Esq. of Lockerby, to Sarah, youngest daughter of James Sholto Douglas, Esq. Denworth, Sussex.

At Edinburgh, Henry Gordon Dickson, Esq. W. S. to Eliza, second daughter of the late William Gillespie, Esq. merchant in Edinburgh.

At Malta, Captain Mainwaring, 10th foot, Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General, to Charlotte Murray, daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Penrose, K. C. B. Commander in Chief in the Mediterranean.

At St Dunstan's, Stepney, W. W. Johnston, jun. of Ratcliff, to Miss Charlotte Lindsay of Mile End.

At Middleton, Linlithgowshire, Alexander Norman Macleod, Esq. of Harris, to Richmond Margaret, second daughter of William Inglis, Esq.

DEATHS.

January 31. At Kytah, Bundelcund, East Indies, Captain Alexander Tod, of the 1st battalion 25th regiment Bengal native infantry, aged 36, eldest son of Mr Robert Tod, Tipperty, Banffshire.

Feb. 28. At Madras, in the 45th year of his age, Lieut.-Colonel William Lewis, of the Hon. East India Company's service, eldest son of the late celebrated W. T. Lewis, Esq. of Covent-Garden Theatre.

March 18. At Madras, George Hay, Esq.

May 24. At Glenlyon House, Miss Janet Campbell, daughter of the late John Campbell, Esq. of Glenlyon.

June 5. At Jamaica, William Sutherland, Esq. of Greenwall.

16. At Woolwich, General Lloyd, after a few days illness: and three days after, Mrs Lloyd had the aggravated affliction of losing her only surviving son, Lieut.-Col. Fluker, aged 34. Their remains were interred at the same time, and in the same grave.

18. At Cambria, in the 43d year of her age, Susannah, daughter of the late Wm. Irvine, Esq. of Roscommon, and wife of Capt. Gittrick, of the staff corps of cavalry. This lady accompanied her husband in all the various duties and different countries in which he had been employed on service with his regiment, from the commencement of the French Revolution to the end of the Peninsular war, in the year 1814.

19. On his passage from Jamaica, Dugald Campbell, Esq. of Saltspring.

21. At Greenock, in the 97th year of her age, Mrs Barbara M'Pherson, relict of the Rev. Alexander M'Leod, of the Isle of Skye, and mother of the late Lieut.-Col. Donald M'Leod of Achagoyle and St Kildar.

22. Of the yellow fever, at Trinidad, Mr Stephen Gibson Gardner, eldest son of Mr Gardner, apothecary, George Street, Edinburgh.

30. At Madeira, Captain the Hon. James Arbuthnot, royal navy, where he had gone on account of ill health, occasioned by the wounds which he received while in command of his Majesty's ship *Avon*.

July 1. The Rev. John Murray, minister of the Associate congregation of Carnoustie, in the 53d year of his age, and 27th of his ministry.

5. At Westfield, near Elgin, Thomas Sellar, Esq.

6. At Jersey, Mrs Home, widow of Major James Home of the East India Company's service.

7. At Foyers, Mrs Jane Fraser, wife to Captain Fraser of Balmain, and only child to Simon Fraser, Esq. of Foyers.

9. At Rose Park, Grace, eldest daughter of Professor Dunbar, aged four years.

10. At Acharnich, in Strathspey, Major Charles Grant, late of the Hon. East India Company's service, aged 60.

12. Mr Thomas Norris of Bishopwearmouth, aged 106.

13. At Eglinton Castle, in the 7th year of his age, the Right Hon. Hugh Lord Montgomerie.

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14. Near Wolviston, county of Durham, at the age of 104, Mrs Mary Stephenson, widow of the late Bartholomew Stephenson. The mother of the deceased died at the age of 108, a sister at 107, another sister at 105, and a brother at the age of 97, making in the whole, 521 years as the united ages of the above five persons. No other family, perhaps, ever produced so many remarkable instances of longevity.

— At Holland Lodge, Mrs Sarah Holland Walker, daughter of the late Maj. Holland, aide-de-camp to General Wolfe, and wife of Lieut.-Col. Robert Walker, lieutenant-governor of Sheerness.

At Bath, in the 54th year of his age, Lord Arundel. His Lordship is succeeded in his titles and estate by his eldest son, James Everard Arundel.

15. At Paris, the celebrated Madame de Stael Holstein, daughter of M. Neckar, so much distinguished before the French Revolution for his financial talents.

— At Port Eglinton Cottage, Bridge Street, near Glasgow, Raymond Birmingham, Esq. aged 63 years.

16. At Arbroath, Alexander Hay, Esq. of Letham, in the 69th year of his age.

— At Dunse, Mrs Trotter, late of Broomdykes.

— At Persey, Perthshire, Miss Frances Farquharson of Persey.

18. At Upper Gower Street, London, Mrs Mackenzie, relict of Colin Mackenzie, Esq.

— At London, Grace Jane, youngest daughter of Alex. Boswell, Esq. of Auchinleck, M.P.

19. At his house in Charles Street, Bath, aged 79, John Palmer, Esq. many years city architect and surveyor. Perhaps no architect of his day has built so many churches and chapels, all designed and executed with appropriate solidity, classical elegance, and utility.

20. At Leith, Mrs Anderson, widow of Dr Thomas Anderson.

23. At Aberdeen, Lieutenant Ogle Moore, R.N. in the 34th year of his age.

— The Rev. Thomas Bain, rector of the academy at Fortrose.

24. At Muir, Ireland, the Rev. Henry Elder, thirty-two years Presbyterian minister of the parish of Faughanvale.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs C. Ferguson, relict of Dr Nicolas Bindon of Mungrat, county Limerick, Ireland.

— At Peebles, Captain Alexander Dickson, formerly of the royal artillery.

— At Clifton, Dr W. Crawford.

26. At Dollerie, Miss Oliphant of Condie.

— At Camnish, near Dungiven, Ireland, in the 74th year of his age, the Rev. Francis Gray, who was upwards of 40 years pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of Boveagh.

—At Edinburgh, John Mackenzie, Esq. of Dolphington.

29. At Cunibrae Light House, Mr Norman M'Donald, merchant, Glasgow.

— At his house, Abercrombie Place, Edinburgh, John Tait, Esq. W. S.

30. In Villiers Street, London, Major William Shairp, of the royal marines.

— At Edinburgh, at the age of 74, Mr James Swan, hair-dresser. His funeral was attended by two of his customers, on whom he had been in the habit of waiting regularly *every day* for upwards of 35 years!

31. Stephen Wight, M.D. aged 21. He had gone to bathe between Leith and Portobello, and was seen to fall almost immediately upon entering the water, it is supposed from the effects of a paralytic affection. The body was carried to the Seafield Baths, and medical assistance procured from Leith as soon as possible; but the usual methods employed to restore suspended animation proved ineffectual.

— At London, Benjamin Hall, of Hensol Castle, Esq. M.P. for the county of Glamorgan.

— At Hodsack Priory, Lieut.-Col. Mellish, one of the Equerries to the Prince Regent.

August 1. At Hastings, Thomas Cockburn Stothert, of Blaiket, Esq. advocate.

— At Peebles, Mr Adam Govan, merchant.

— At Atherstone, Colonel Duncan Macpherson of Cluny.

— At London, in the 69th year of his age, Alexander Murray Shields, Esq. of Lloyd's Coffee-house.

— At his seat, at St Catharine's, Ireland, in the 88th year of his age, the Right Hon. David Latouche, many years one of his Majesty's Privy Council, and for 40 years a Member of the Parliament of Ireland.

2. In his 80th year, Archibald Paxton, Esq. of Buckingham Street, York Buildings, London, and Watford Place, in the county of Herts.

— At Drimmie Cottage, near Blairgowrie, William Chalmers, Esq. town-clerk of Dundee, aged 75.

— At Borrowstounness, Miss Mary Paddon, aged 80 years.

— At Port-Glasgow, a fortnight after he landed from the island of Tobago, Alexander Scott, Esq.

—At Ballyvaltar, Ireland, aged 66 years, Mrs Cairns, relict of the late Surgeon Cairns, of Donaghadee, and last surviving daughter of the late Captain Arthur Lusk, who circumnavigated the globe with Lord Anson.

3. At Knockbain, parish of Kirkhill, John Fraser, aged 102 years. He fought under the banners of the Chief of the clan at Culloden, and on many other occasions; has always been a careful sober man. He could, till within the last two years, dance a Highland reel with as much spirit as a man of 30 years of age; had a very extensive memory; and would rehearse many anecdotes regarding his Chief's exploits.

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5. At Edinburgh, John Gillespie, Esq. of Sunnyside Lodge, Lanarkshire.

— At Wolsley Hall, Staffordshire, Sir William Wolsley, Bart. He was walking in the shrubberies by his house, when he fell down and expired before he could be well taken into his room. He was upwards of 80 years of age.

— At Gilmour Place, Edinburgh, Mr James M'Cliesh, late bookseller in Edinburgh.

6. Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr Turnbull, Dundas Street, Edinburgh.

— At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Henderson, eldest son of Thomas Henderson, Esq. City Chamberlain.

— At Blaircessnock of Cardross, Mr James Sands, sen. aged 90 years.

— At Greenhead, Glasgow, aged 82 years, William Caldwell, Esq. late of Yardfoot, Lochwinnoch.

8. At Hayfield, by Kinross, at the advanced age of 84, Mrs Syme, relict of David Syme, Esq. of Cartmore.

— At the age of 73, near London, the Right Hon. Henri Benedict Jules de Betizy, Lord Bishop of Uzes in France.

18. In Upper Berkeley Street, London, Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. William Grey, fourth son of the late, and brother of the present Earl Grey.

Lately.—At Oxcomb, Lincolnshire, aged 47, Mr W. Grant, grazier. He has left property to the amount of L.100,000.

In East Street, Red Lion Square, London, Mr Alexander M'Laurin, commander of the ship *Tobago*.

At Halifax, the lady of his Excellency Maj.-Gen. Smith, governor of New Brunswick.

At Serampore, Lieut. H. F. Macfarlane, of the pension establishment.

At Madras, Lieut. Macdonald, of his Majesty's 34th regiment of foot.

Suddenly, Lady Hackett, the lady of Sir C. Hackett, knight.

Mr Wilson, of Sutton, Lincolnshire. He was a very penurious bachelor; and on being undressed after his decease, L.1187 was found in cash and bank bills on his person.

At London, of an apoplectic fit, Sir Wm. Parsons, between 70 and 80 years of age. He was a very active and able magistrate, and a great part of his life was dedicated to the correction of abuses in the Police. He was a great favourite with all the Royal Family, to whom he taught music, of which he was a very able professor.

At Demerara, Capt. Charles Dutchman, of the *Cognac* packet, of Hull, who, with his brother Henry and a boat's crew, had been to the assistance of a vessel in distress; they were caught by a heavy squall, when all unfortunately perished. These make six sons Mr Dutchman, senior, has lost, viz. three killed in action with privateers, and one by an accident at a ship launch in America.

At Brighton, in her 90th year, Lady Anne Murray, sister of the late Lord Chief Justice Mansfield. This benevolent character rewarded the fidelity of her servants in the most liberal manner, as the following statement of bequests will shew: To her housekeeper, who had been nearly 33 years in her service, she has given L.3500, and her wardrobe; to her butler, who had been 24 years, L.1200; to her cook, who had been 19 years, L.700; to her laundress, who had been 11 years, L.600; to her two housemaids, one of whom had been 18, and the other 9 years in her service, L.600 each; and to her footman, who had been 9 years, L.600. The residue of her ladyship's property will devolve on George Finch Hatton, Esq. of Eastwell Park, in Kent, who married her niece, and who is appointed sole executor.

The celebrated mineralogist, Werner. The day of his death is not stated, but the Paris papers quote a letter from Dresden as to the fact. "His name," says the letter, "was known from the iron mines of Siberia to those of gold in Peru." Among the effects left by Werner, there are several manuscripts nearly ready for press. This great man had printed nothing since 1774. His labours always appeared to him not sufficiently matured; but his instructions are spread over the world by thousands of his scholars. His cabinet of minerals, consisting of 100,000 specimens, has become the property of the Mineralogical Academy at Frieberg.

Mr Scott, of Exeter. He travelled on business till about 80 years of age. He was one of the most celebrated characters in the kingdom for punctuality, and by his methodical conduct, joined to uniform diligence, he gradually amassed a large fortune. For a long series of years the proprietor of every inn he frequented in Devon and Cornwall knew the day and the very hour he would arrive. Some time since, a gentleman on a journey in Cornwall, stopped at a small inn at Port Isaac to dine The waiter presented him with the bill of fare, which he did not approve of, but observing a fine duck roasting, "I'll have that," said the traveller.—"You cannot, sir," replied the landlord; "it is for Mr Scott of Exeter." "I know Mr Scott very well," rejoined the gentleman; "he is not in your house."—"True, sir," said the landlord; "but six months ago, when he was here last, he ordered a duck to be ready for him this day precisely at two o'clock;" and, to the astonishment of the traveller, he saw the old gentleman, on his *Rozinante*, jogging into the inn-yard about five minutes before the appointed time.

George Ramsay and Co. Printers, Edinburgh.

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THE
EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,
AND
LITERARY MISCELLANY,
BEING A NEW SERIES OF
The Scots Magazine.

SEPTEMBER 1817.

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LONDON.

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HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days.	Morn.		Even.		Days.	Morn.		Even.	
Sept.	H.	M.	H.	M.	Oct.	H.	M.	H.	M.
Su. 21	11	44	12	12	M. 6	10	53	11	25
M. 22	12	35	12	54	Tu. 7	11	52	12	17
Tu. 23			1	10	W. 8	12	39	12	59
W 24	1	29	1	45	Th. 9			1	20
Th. 25	2	2	2	16	Fr. 10	1	42	2	3
Fr. 26	2	31	2	46	Sa. 11	2	23	2	43
Sa. 27	2	59	3	14	Su. 12	3	4	3	25
Su. 28	3	28	3	42	M. 13	3	45	4	6
M. 29	3	55	4	8	Tu. 14	4	27	4	50
Tu. 30	4	24	4	39	W. 15	5	14	5	41
Oct.					Th. 16	6	9	6	40
W. 1	4	58	5	16	Fr. 17	7	17	8	0
Th. 2	5	36	6	1	Sa. 18	8	47	9	34
Fr. 3	6	32	7	9	Su. 19	10	13	10	46
Sa. 4	7	56	8	49	M. 20	11	15	11	41
Su. 5	9	38	10	18					

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Sept. 25. 26 *m.* past 9 morn.
Last Quarter, Oct. 3. 18 ——— 2 aftern.
New Moon, ——— 10. 49 ——— 3 aftern.
First Quarter, ——— 17. 16 ——— 7 morn.

TERMS, &c.

Sept. 22. King George III. crowned.
29. Michaelmas.
30. Hare Hunting begins.
Oct. 10. River Tweed closes.

NOTICE.

The Editors of the EDINBURGH MONTHLY MAGAZINE, *a Work of which the discontinuance has just been announced, beg leave to intimate, that they have now undertaken to act as Editors of the* EDINBURGH MAGAZINE *and* LITERARY MISCELLANY. *They are happy in being enabled to state, that they have received the most satisfactory assurances of support, not only from the extensive circle of Literary Friends with whose assistance they planned and so successfully carried on their former publication, but also from a number of other distinguished individuals, who have engaged to contribute their effective aid to this New Series of the earliest and most esteemed Repository of Scottish Literature.*

Edinburgh, Sept. 26, 1817.

Printed by George Ramsay & Co.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

SEPTEMBER 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

SOME ACCOUNT OF ANDREW GEMMELS, A SCOTTISH BEGGAR, SUPPOSED TO BE THE ORIGINAL OF EDIE OCHILTREE.

MR EDITOR,

A PASSION seems at present to prevail pretty generally, for bringing forward to view the ground-work, in actual history, of those professedly fictitious narratives with which an unknown and most self-denied author has lately entertained the public. Not satisfied with the *vraisemblable* only, which this admirable writer has so well communicated to his fancy details, his readers have begun to look out curiously for the corresponding facts and characters which he must have set before him in their manufacture. Through the medium of the Quarterly Review, and other periodical works, the public have been already made familiar with some of the most remarkable of these Originals. In Jean Gordon and Bowed Davie, particularly, the likeness in some characteristic features to their alleged representatives, is so very obvious as scarcely to leave a doubt that the mysterious author "had an eye to them" in sketching his extraordinary pictures;—and, in the south of Scotland at least, a strong persuasion prevails, that several others might still be brought forward, not less striking and worthy of notice, than the misanthropic Dwarf, or the magnanimous Gypsey.

Such inquiries are at all times interesting, and, if discreetly and properly conducted, may be rendered, I conceive, both amusing and instructive. Even when pushed, as they are rather apt to be, somewhat beyond probability, they seldom fail to elicit curious and valuable information; and, in the present case, they certainly afford most convincing and gratifying evidence not only of the truth and genius displayed in these National Tales, but also that their high excellence has been duly felt and appreciated by the public. With these impressions, I have thrown together a few particulars which I happen to be possessed of, respecting an individual who is supposed, by many persons who knew him, to have furnished the novellist with the idea of one of his happiest creations. Edie Ochiltree is, indeed, a much more elevated and amiable person than the eccentric wanderer I have to produce as his counterpart; but the latter (whom I cannot profess, however, to delineate at present with much nicety or distinctness) certainly possessed some of Edie's most remarkable and agreeable qualities, and, if not the sole original, at least probably suggested some of the most characteristic features of that very prepossessing and poetical badgeman.

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Andrew Gemmels was well known over all the Border districts as a wandering beggar, or *gaberlunzie*, for the greater part of half a century. He had been a soldier in his youth; and his entertaining stories of his campaigns and the adventures he had encountered in foreign countries, united with his shrewdness, drollery, and other agreeable qualities, rendered him a general favourite, and secured him a cordial welcome and free quarters at every shepherd's cot or farm-steading that lay in the range of his extensive wanderings. Among his other places of resort in Tiviotdale, Andrew regularly visited at my grandfather's. It was one of his "Saturday-night houses," as he called them, where he always staid over the Sunday, and sometimes longer. He usually put up his horse, on his arrival, without the formality of asking quarters, and had a straw bed made up for him in the byre, claiming it rather as his acknowledged due and privilege, than as a boon of charity. He preferred sleeping in an out-house, and, if possible, in one where cattle or horses were kept. My grandfather, who was an old-fashioned farmer in a remote situation, was exceedingly fond of his company, and, though a very devout and strict Cameronian, and occasionally somewhat scandalized at Andrew's rough and irreverent style of language, was nevertheless so much attracted by his conversation, that he never failed to spend the evenings of his sojourn in listening to his entertaining narrations and "auld warld stories,"—with the old shepherds, hinds, and children, seated around them beside the blazing turf ingle in "the farmer's ha'." These conversations sometimes took a polemical turn, and in that case, not unfrequently ended in a violent dispute, my ancestor's hot and impatient temper blazing forth on collision with the dry and sarcastic humour of his ragged guest. Andrew was never known to yield his point on these occasions; but he usually had the address, when matters grew too serious, to give the conversation a more pleasant turn, by some droll remark or unexpected stroke of humour, which convulsed the rustic group, and the grave goodman himself, with unfailing and irresistible merriment.

Though free, however, and uncere-monious, Andrew was never burdensome or indiscreet in his visits; returning only once or twice a-year, and generally after pretty regular intervals. He evidently appeared to prosper in his calling; for, though hung round with rags of every shape and hue, he commonly possessed a good horse, and used to attend the country fairs and race-courses, where he would bet and dispute with the country lairds and gentry, with the most independent and resolute pertinacity. He allowed that begging *had* been a good trade in his time, but used to complain sadly, in his latter days, that times were daily growing worse. My father remembers seeing Gemmels travelling about on a blood mare, with a foal after her, and a gold watch in his pocket. On one occasion, at Rutherford in Tiviotdale, he had dropt a clue of yarn, and Mr Mather, his host, finding him rummaging for it, assisted in the search, and, having got hold of it, persisted, notwithstanding Andrew's opposition, in unrolling the yarn till he came to the *kernel*, which, much to his surprise and amusement, he found to consist of about twenty guineas in gold.

Many curious anecdotes of Andrew's sarcastic wit and eccentric manners are current in the Borders; and both his character and personal appearance must have been familiar to many individuals still alive, some of whom may probably be induced to communicate further information respecting him, upon their personal authority. As I am myself but a *reporter*,—though upon authorities which to me, at least, appear indisputable,—I shall, for the present, content myself with one or two specimens, illustrative of Andrew's resemblance to his celebrated representative. The following is given as commonly related with much good humour by the late Mr Dodds of the War-Office, the person to whom it chiefly refers. Andrew happened to be present at a fair or market somewhere in Tiviotdale, (St Boswell's, if I mistake not,) where Dodds, at that time a non-commissioned officer in his Majesty's service, happened also to be with a military party recruiting. It was some time during the American war when they were beating up eagerly for fresh men—to teach passive obedience to the obdurate and ill-man-

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nered Columbians; and it was then the practice for recruiting serjeants, after parading for a due space, with all the warlike pageantry of drums, trumpets, "glancing blades, and gay cockades," to declaim in heroic strains of the delights of a soldier's life—of glory, patriotism, plunder—the prospect of promotion for the bold and young, and his Majesty's munificent pension for the old and the wounded, &c. &c. Dodds, who was a man of much natural talent, and whose abilities afterwards raised him to an honourable rank and independent fortune, had made one of his most brilliant speeches on this occasion; a crowd of ardent and active rustics were standing round, gaping with admiration at the imposing mien, and kindling at the heroic eloquence of the manly soldier, whom many of them had known a few years before as a rude tailor boy;—the serjeant himself, already leading in idea a score of new recruits, had just concluded in a strain of more than usual elevation, his oration in praise of the military profession, when Gemmels, who, in tattered guise, was standing close behind him, reared aloft his *meal-pocks* on the end of his *keat* or pike-staff, and exclaimed with a tone and aspect of profound derision, "*Behold the end o't!*" The contrast was irresistible—the *beau ideal* of Serjeant Dodds, and the ragged reality of Andrew Gemmels, were sufficiently striking, and the former, with his red-coat followers, beat a retreat in some confusion, amidst the loud and universal laughter of the surrounding multitude.

Another time, Andrew went to visit one of his patrons, a poor Scotch laird, who had recently erected an expensive and fantastic mansion, of which he was very vain, and which but ill corresponded with his rank or his resources. The beggar was standing leaning over his pike-staff, and looking very attentively at the edifice, when the laird came forth and accosted him:——"Well, Andrew, you're admiring our handiworks here?"—"Atweel am I, sir."—"And what think ye o' them, Andrew?"—"I just think ye hae thrawn away twa bonny estates, *and built a gowk's nest.*"

Gemmels died in the year 1793, at Roxburgh-Newton, near Kelso. A lady who was residing there at that time, and who witnessed his latter days, has furnished me with the following particulars, which I transfer to you in her own simple and expressive words:—

"He came to Newton at that time in a very weakly condition; being, according to his own account, 105 years of age. The conduct of some of the country folks towards poor Andrew in his declining state, was not what it should have been: probably most of his old patrons had died out, and their more genteel descendants disliked to be fashed and burdened with a dying beggar; so every one handed him over to his next neighbour; and he was hurried from Selkirk to Newton in three days, a distance of sixteen miles. He was brought in a cart and laid down at Mr R——'s byre-door, but we never knew by whom. He was taken in, and laid as usual on his truss of straw. When we spoke of making up a bed for him, he got into a rage, and swore, (as well as he was able to speak,) "That many clever fellow had died in the field with his hair frozen to the ground—and would he submit to die in any of our beds?"—He did not refuse a little whisky, however, now and then: for it was but cold, in the spring, lying in an out-house among straw. A friend who was along with me, urged him to tell what cash he had about him, "as you know," said she, "it has always been reported that you have money." Andrew replied with a look of derision, "Bow, wow, wow, woman! women folk are aye fashing theirsels about what they hae nae business wi'." He at length told us he had changed a note at Selkirk, and paid six shillings for a pair of shoes which he had on him; but not a silver coin was found in all his duddy doublets,—and many kind of odd like pouch he had:—in one of them was sixpence worth of halfpence, and two combs for his silver locks, which were beautiful. His set of teeth, which he had got in his 101st year, were very white. What was remarkable, notwithstanding all the rags he had flapping about him, he was particularly clean in his old healsome looking person. He at last allowed the servants to strip off his rags and lay him in a bed, which was made up for him in a cart, in the byre. After he was laid comfortably

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he often prayed, and to good purpose; but if the servants did not feed him right, (for he could not lift a spoon to his mouth for several days before his death,) he would give them a passing ban. He lived nine days with us, and continued quite sensible till the hour of his decease. Mr R——got him decently buried. Old Tammy Jack, with the mickle nose, got his shoes for digging his grave in Roxburgh kirk-yard. Andrew was well known through all this country and great part of Northumberland. I suppose he was originally from the west country, but cannot speak with certainty as to that; it was, however, commonly reported that he had a nephew or some other relation in the west, who possessed a farm which Andrew had stocked for him from the profits of his begging."

Should the above notice appear worthy of preservation, Mr Editor, in your useful publication, I shall take much pleasure in communicating any farther particulars that may fall in my way relative to this remarkable beggar, or other interesting originals.

I am, &c. S. E.

Sept. 22, 1817.

UNCOMMON LARCH TREE NEAR ATHOL HOUSE.

MR EDITOR,

The great extent of his Grace the Duke of Athol's larch plantations is well known. Some of the trees planted by his predecessors have attained to a most extraordinary size. One tree, for the use of the navy, was cut down a few weeks ago, of the following age and dimensions:

Age.	*Contents.*			*Length.*		*Square.*	
		F.	*In.*	*F.*	*In.*	*F.*	*In.*
79	Root cut,	171	6	31	6	2	4
	Middle do.	60		25	4	1	7½
	Top do.	16		14	3	1	0½

Total cubic feet 247½

The tree was 107 feet high. The upper top cut, measuring nine inches square, contained thirty feet eleven inches. There is not another larch plantation in the empire which contains trees at all approaching the above in size and dimensions. The plantation where it stood is furnishing a large supply of very valuable and highly approved timber for the ship building carried on in his Majesty's dock-yards. G. H. B.

Sept. 1817.

QUEEN ELIZABETH AND QUEEN MARY.

In the notices prefixed to our last Number, we intimated that we were in possession of original letters of Queen Elizabeth and her ministers, of which we shall now present a short specimen. The first article is a letter from Queen Elizabeth to Sir Ralph Sadler, prefaced by an address written by her own hand, of which we give a correct *fac-simile*, and which is referred to by Sadler in a letter to her Majesty, dated at Wingfield, 7th December 1584.* Queen Mary was carried to Wingfield, a manor-house near Sheffield, belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury, in September of that year, and removed to Tutbury Castle in Staffordshire in January 1585. The inventory subjoined contains the articles that were to be carried with her to Wingfield; and it would appear, from the indorsement of this paper, that the same articles were transported with her to Tutbury. In the sequel of the work referred to, there are many grievous complaints by Sadler of the wildness and poverty of the country around Wingfield, and also of the scantiness of this inventory, particularly in the article of sheets, for the new establishment at Tutbury. At the time of this removal, Queen Mary was in a bad state of health, and the roads were almost impassable, it being then the depth of winter; but every consideration seems to have been sacrificed by Elizabeth, excepting always her invincible economy, to the security of her unfortunate prisoner, who had then pined seventeen years in captivity, the victim of the confidence she had rashly reposed in the insidious professions of her rival.

* State Papers and Letters of Sir Ralph Sadler, Vol. II. p. 460.—Sir Ralph here says, "Your letters, vouchsafed upon so poure a man as I am, being one of the pourest subjects of that degree which I am called unto, and specially those few wordes of *your Highnes' owne hand*, conteyning this precept, 'Vse olde trust and new diligence,' together with your most gracious promise shortly to relieve me of this charge, have not a little comforted me."

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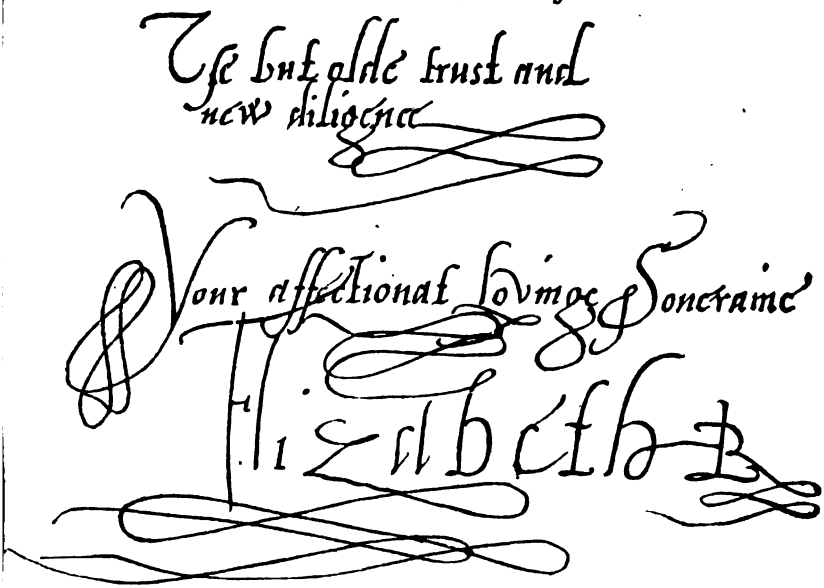

By the Quene,

TRUSTIE and right welbeloued counsellor, we greete you well, and let you wit, that whereas or cousin of Shrewsbury hath ben an humble suitor vnto vs, to be now eased of the chardge he hath hetherto had of the Scotishe Queene, we therefore fynding yt reasounable to satisfye his request therein, for the considerations by him alledged of his decayed health and weake estate of body, haue assented thereto; and, therfore, or pleasure is, you shall proceede to the removing of the said Queene to or Castell of Tutbury, according to such direction as, by or order, you have receaued from our principall Secretary for that purpos, at such tyme as, the howse being in a readines to receaue hir, you shall in your owne discretioun thincke fit and convenyent; and that, for yor assistaunce therein, you caule vnto you the Shirife, and such other gentlemen of that our countie of Derbie as to yor self shalbe thought meete; assuring you, that, for the care we haue to releeue you of the said chardge in respect of yor yeres, we will, wth as convenient speede as maie be, dispatche one thether to take the same vppon him. Geuen vnder or signet, at or manno' of St James, the third of December, in the xxvijth yere of or regne.

ffor that we vnderstand the said Queene is at this present somewhat indisposed of hir body, or pleasure therefore is, youe do so order the remove as that yt maie not be dangerous or preiudityall to hir healthe.

To our trustie and right welbeloued Counsellor Sr Rafe Sadler, Knight, Chauncellor of or Dutchye of Lancaster.

(Indorsed) 3 Decembris 1584, from the Q. mate R. s°. per poste.

AN INUENTORIE OF SUCH LYNEN & PLATT AS IS TO BE CARYED TO WYNGEFIELD.

Imprimis lx payre of sheetis.
Itm. iiij dozen & iiij pillowberes.
Itm. vij tabell clothes of damaske.
Itm. vij tabell clothes of diaper.
Itm. vj towells of damaske.
Itm. vij towells of diaper.
Itm. vj dozen of damask napkins.
Itm. vij dozen of diaper napkins.
Itm. iiij coberd clothes of damaske.
Itm. ix coberdclothes of diaper.
Itm. xij plane tableclothes.
Itm. xij course tableclothes.
Itm. xx dozen of plane napkins.
Itm. xx wiping clothes.
Itm. xxx dressours.
Itm. xij plane towells.

The Plaitt.

On Salt of Calsedon, garnished wt silvr guilt.
On payre of couerid basons guilt.

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On payre of guilt pottes.
On payre of guilt flagons.
On guilt cup, wt a cover.
On guilt cup of assaye.
On guilt leyer.
xij guilt trencher plates.
xij guilt spons.
On guilt jugg, wt a lyd.
vj guilt chaundellorns.
On bason & ewer of silvr, parcell guilt.
Two round saltis of silvr.
On flagon of silvr, parcel guilt.
On bolle of silvr.
Two jugges, wt two eares apece.
On bason & ewer of silvr, parcell guilt.
On peire of pottes, parcell guilt.
On payre of flagons.
On salt, parcell guilt.
Two bolls of silvr.
On jugg, wt ij eares.
iiij platters of silvr, parcell guilt.
vj dimy platters.
x disshes.
xij small dishes.
viij sawsers of silvr, lykwise parcell guilt.
} xl peeces.

(Indorsed) 21 Decembris 1584.
Copie of the Inventary of Napry and plate apointid to be brought downe to Tutbury, for the vse of the Scotish Queene, and my L. St John.

PLAN FOR ABOLISHING AN ABUSE PREVALENT AT COUNTRY FUNERALS.

MR EDITOR,

THE lower classes of the community, in many districts of the country, lay an unnecessary and oppressive tax on themselves, by the costly and unsuitable style in which they conduct funerals. On these occasions, large crowds are collected, and lavishly entertained with bread and spirits. The company feast sometimes for hours together, and often every thing appears in their behaviour but sobriety and sorrow.

I have known a family reduced to distress by one funeral, and the survivors kept in great pecuniary embarrassment for a long period.

There can be no question, in every view of the case, that this absurd and pernicious *fashion* should be abolished. In attempting this, however, there may be some difficulty, for it is confirmed by long and very general practice; and no individual is willing to be the first in departing from it.

In these circumstances, I beg to recommend to the attention of the clergy and landed proprietors who take an interest in the conduct and comfort of the lower classes, the following scheme, which has been successfully adopted in one country parish in Perthshire, and which, being highly approved in the neighbourhood, is about to be introduced (*mutatis mutandis*) into adjoining parishes.

The minister and session, with the approbation of the principal heritor, circulated a paper, which they earnestly recommended for general signature by the parishioners. In this paper they bind themselves to the following conditions:

"1. That the hour of assembling shall, when convenient, be twelve o'clock, and the hour of *lifting* the corpse never later, in that case, than one o'clock; but, in all cases, never later than one hour after the time fixed for assembling.

"2. That no meat or drink shall be given to the persons assembled, except the offer of a single glass of whisky, either at the door of the house, or in the house where they assemble.

"3. That if any shall break through, or contravene these rules, they bind themselves and their heirs to pay on demand to the kirk-session one guinea, for the use of the poor; and that for every instance of the breach of either of the aforesaid rules."

This paper has been generally and most willingly subscribed by the great body of those concerned, and a most desirable reform, as to this particular, is now in progress.

Permit me, Mr Editor, to add further, that, while *this* is a reform most useful to the lower classes, it is one in which I am satisfied, from much inquiry, they are predisposed to concur; but, for obvious reasons, it is expedient and essential for persons of a higher class to give any plan for the purpose, the authority and influence of their recommendation. I am convinced myself, that much good would follow from such plans becoming general; and, therefore, I anxiously wish that this ephemeral suggestion may be noticed and acted upon by those whose station and office enable them to attempt its practical adoption.

I am, Mr Editor, your obedient servant, PAUPERIS AMICUS.

Sept. 1817.

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ROBERT BURNS AND HELEN MARIA WILLIAMS.

The two following articles form part of a selection from the unpublished correspondence of Robert Burns, now in possession of the Editor. The *first*, a letter from the celebrated Helen Maria Williams to the poet, relates chiefly to some occasional verses by Dr Moore, not in our possession, and about which it does not seem necessary to inquire more particularly. The *second* is a criticism by Burns upon a poem of Miss W.'s, which it appears she had submitted to his opinion. The critique, though not without some traits of his usual sound judgment and discrimination, appears on the whole to be much in the strain of those gallant and flattering responses which men of genius usually find it incumbent to issue, when consulted upon the productions of their female admirers.

Sir,—Your friend, Dr Moore, having a complaint in his eyes, has desired me to become his secretary, and thank you, in his name, for your very humorous poem, entitled, Auld Willie's Prayer, which he had from Mr Creech.

I am happy in this opportunity of expressing my obligations to you for the pleasure your poems have given me. I am sensible enough that my suffrage in their favour is of little value; yet it is natural for me to tell you, that, as far as I am capable of feeling poetical excellence, I have felt the power of your genius. I believe no one has read oftener than myself your Vision, your Cotter's Evening, the Address to the Mouse, and many of your other poems. My mother's family is Scotch, and the dialect has been familiar to me from my infancy; I was, therefore, qualified to taste the charm of your native poetry, and, as I feel the strongest attachment for Scotland, I share the triumph of your country in producing your laurels.

I know the inclosed poems, which were addressed to me by Dr Moore, will give you pleasure, and shall, therefore, risque incurring the imputation of vanity by sending them. I own that I gratify my own pride by so doing. You know enough of his character not to wonder that I am proud of his friendship, and you will not be surprised that he who can give so many graces of wit and originality to prose, should be able to please in verse, when he turns his thoughts that way. One of these poems was sent to me last summer from Hamilton House; the other is so local, that you must take the trouble to read a little history before you can understand it. My mother removed lately to the house of a Captain Jaques, in Southampton Row, Bloomsbury Square. What endeared this situation not a little to my imagination, was the recollection that Gray, the poet, had resided in it. I told Dr Moore that I had very solid reason to think that Gray had lived in this very house, and had composed the Bard in my little study; there were but fifty chances to one against it, and what is that in poetical calculation? I added, that I was convinced our landlord was a lineal descendant of Shakespeare's Jaques. Dr Moore laughed, as he has often occasion to do, at my folly; but the fabric which my fancy had reared upon the firm substantial air, soon tottered; for it became a matter of doubt if our habitation was in Southampton Row, or in King Street, which runs in a line with it. In the meantime, Dr Moore called upon me, and left the inclosed verses on my table.

It will give me great pleasure, Sir, to hear that you find your present retirement agreeable, for, indeed, I am much interested in your happiness. If I only considered the satisfaction I should derive from your acquaintance, I should wish that your fortune had led you towards London; but I am persuaded that you have had the wisdom to chuse the situation most congenial to the Muses.—I am, Sir, with great esteem, your most obedient servant,

H. M. Williams.

London, June 20th, 1787.

A few Strictures on Miss Williams' Poem on the Slave Trade.

I know very little of scientific criticism, so all I can pretend to in that intricate art is merely to note, as I read along, what passages strike me as being uncommonly beautiful, and where the expression seems to me perplexed or faulty.

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The poem opens finely. There are none of these idle prefatory lines which one may skip over before one comes to the subject. Verses 9th and 10th in particular,

> Where ocean's unseen bound
> Leaves a drear world of waters round,

are truly beautiful. The simile of the hurricane is likewise fine; and, indeed, beautiful as the poem is, almost all the similies rise decidedly above it. From verse 31st to verse 50th, is a pretty eulogy on Britain. Verse 36th, "that foul drama deep with wrong," is nobly expressive. Verse 46th, I am afraid, is rather unworthy of the rest; "to dare to feel," is an idea that I do not altogether like. The contrast of valour and mercy, from the 46th verse to the 50th, is admirable.

Either my apprehension is dull, or there is something a little confused in the apostrophe to Mr Pitt. Verse 55th is the antecedent to verses 57th and 58th, but in verse 58th the connection seems ungrammatical:

> Powers, ...
> . . . . . .
> With no gradations mark'd their flight,
> But *rose* at once to glory's height.

Ris'n should surely be the word instead of *rose*. Try it in prose. Powers,—their flight marked by no gradations, but [the same powers] risen at once to the height of glory. Likewise, verse 52d, "For this," is evidently meant to lead on the sense of verses 59th, 60th, 61st, and 62d; but let us try how the thread of connection runs.

> For this . . . . . .
> . . . . . .
> The deeds of mercy, that embrace
> A distant sphere, an alien race,
> Shall virtue's lips record, and claim
> The fairest honours of thy name.

I beg pardon if I misapprehend the matter, but this appears to me the only imperfect passage in the poem. The comparison of the sunbeam is fine.

The compliment to the Duke of Richmond is, I hope, as just as it is certainly elegant. The thought

> Virtue . . . . . .
> . . . . . .
> Lends, from her unsullied source,
> The gems of thought their purest force,

is exceedingly beautiful. The idea from verse 81st to the 85th, that the "blest decree" is like the beams of morning ushering in the glorious day of liberty, ought not to pass unnoticed, nor unapplauded. From verse 85th to verse 108th, is an animated contrast between the unfeeling selfishness of the oppressor on the one hand, and the misery of the captive on the other. Verse 88th might perhaps be amended thus: "Nor ever *quit* her narrow maze." We are said to *pass* a bound, but we *quit* a maze. Verse 100th is exquisitely beautiful.

> They, whom wasted blessings tire.

Verse 110th is, I doubt, a clashing of metaphors; "to load a span" is, I am afraid, an unwarrantable expression. In verse 114th, "Cast the universe in shade," is a fine idea. From the 115th verse to the 142d is a striking description of the wrongs of the poor African. Verse 120th, "the load of unremitted pain," is a remarkable strong expression. The address to the advocates for abolishing the slave-trade, from verse 143d to verse 208th, is animated with the true life of genius. The picture of oppression,

> While she links her impious chain,
> And calculates the price of pain;
> Weighs agony in sordid scales,
> And marks if death or life prevails,

is nobly executed.

What a tender idea is in verse 180th; indeed, that whole description of Home may vie with Thomson's description of Home, somewhere in the beginning of his Autumn. I do not remember to have seen a stronger expression of misery than is contained in these verses.

> Condemned, severe extreme, to live
> When all is fled that life can give.

The comparison of our distant joys to distant objects, is equally original and striking.

The character and manners of the dealer in this infernal traffic is a well done, though a horrid picture. I am not sure how far introducing the sailor was right; for, though the sailor's common characteristic is generosity, yet, in this case, he is certainly not only an unconcerned witness, but in some degree an efficient agent in the business. Verse 224th is a nervous . . . . expressive—"The

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heart convulsive anguish breaks." The description of the captive wretch when he arrives in the West Indies, is carried on with equal spirit. The thought that the oppressor's sorrow on seeing his slave pine, is like the butcher's regret when his destined lamb dies a natural death, is exceedingly fine.

I am got so much into the cant of criticism, that I begin to be afraid lest I have nothing except the cant of it; and, instead of elucidating my author, am only benighting myself. For this reason, I will not pretend to go through the whole poem. Some few remaining beautiful lines, however, I cannot pass over. Verse 280th is the strongest description of selfishness I ever saw; the comparison in verses 285th and 286th is new and fine; and the line, "Your alms to penury you lend," is excellent.

In verse 317th, "like" should surely be "as," or "so;" for instance,

His sway the hardened bosom leads
To cruelty's remorseless deeds;
As (or *so*) the blue lightning, when it springs
With fury on its livid wings,
Darts to the goal with rapid force,
Nor heeds that ruin marks its course.

If you insert the word *like* where I have placed *as*, you must alter *darts* to *darting*, and *heeds* to *heeding*, in order to make it grammar. A tempest is a favourite subject with the poets, but I do not remember any thing even in Thomson's Winter, superior to your verses from the 347th to the 351st. Indeed, that last simile, beginning with "Fancy may dress," &c., and ending with the 350th verse, is, in my opinion, the most beautiful passage in the whole poem; it would do honour to the greatest names that ever graced our profession.

I will not beg your pardon, Madam, for these strictures, as my conscience tells me, that, for once in my life, I have acted up to the duties of a Christian, in doing as I would be done by.

VIEW OF THE CHANGE OF MANNERS IN SCOTLAND DURING THE COURSE OF THE LAST CENTURY.

(Concluded from p. 14.)

The change of manners in the next generation was very remarkable. The Union with England carried many of our nobility and gentry to London. Sixty of the most considerable people being obliged to pass half the year there, would no doubt change their ideas, besides, many English came to reside at Edinburgh. The Court of Exchequer and Boards of Customs and Excise were mostly all of that nation; at least all the under officers were. These were well-bred people, and well received by the first people in Scotland. As the intercourse with the English opened our eyes a little, so it gave us a liberty of trade we had not before, from the Union. Many of our younger sons became merchants, and went abroad;—it likewise became the fashion for young men of fortune to study for some years in Holland, after which, to make a tour through France and Italy; on their return home, they brought to Scotland foreign politeness, grafted on the self-importance and dignity of their fathers. May we not suppose it was at this time our nation acquired the character of poverty and pride?

About the 24, a weekly assembly for dancing was set up at Edinburgh; this, with private balls carried on by subscription, took place of marriages, baptisms, and funerals.

The society now came to be more enlarged, but it required time to have a proper effect. The manners of the men, though stiff, and evidently assumed, yet were better than those of the women, who were indelicate in their conversation, and vulgar. As the awe and reverence for parents and elder friends wore off, they brought into company the freedom and romping they had acquired amongst their brothers and near relations; many of them threw off all restraint, and were I to name the time when the Scotch ladies went farthest wrong, it would be between the 30 and 40, though it was far from being general. There was still in the country a taste for good morals, which was much improved by a set of teachers established among us, most of whom had had their education abroad, or who had travelled with young gentlemen. As every body at this period went regularly to church, I may justly mention ministers as teachers; Professor Hamilton, and the two Mr Wisharts, at Edinburgh, Professor Hutchison, Craig, Clarke, and Principal Leeshman, in the west. Those taught who-

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ever would please God, must resemble him in goodness and benevolence, and those that had it not, must affect it by politeness and good manners. These lectures and sermons were attended by all the young and gay; they were new and entertaining, and matter for conversation and criticism.

In well regulated families, there was still kept up a reverence for parents and elderly friends; and when the young were admitted to their society, there was a degree of attention paid the old, yea, even servility, that this age knows nothing of, and whoever was wanting in it, was unfit for company. Nobody in those times thought of pleasing themselves; the established rule was to please your company; endeavour to make them think well of themselves, and they will think well of you for doing so. Society was not yet so much enlarged as to weaken the affections of near relations. This may easily be ascertained by every one now alive that is past fifty; not only brothers and sisters, but brothers and sisters-in-law, mothers-in-law, and even more distant connections, would leave their own families for ten or twelve days, and attend with the utmost care a friend in a fever, or dangerous disorder; these were the nurse-keepers for the first 30 years of this century, who by every method endeavoured to lessen their distress, nor left them night or day till they were recovered or buried.

The intercourse between relations and friends was kept up in another way, which was of small presents, mostly consisting of meat and drink; any thing rare or good of its kind was in part sent to a friend; whatever rank in life they were in, these presents were received with thanks, and returned in kind, on proper occasions; —neither was strangers nor people of high rank sought after in their entertainments; it was their relations, the friends they loved, that shared their delicacies.

These manners still remain in many places of Scotland. When this restraint was thrown off, every character appeared in a natural light, of which there were great variety; prudes and coquettes, romps and affected fine ladies. They were at no pains to disguise, as every one had their own admirers. The regular tea-tables, which commenced about the 20, was a meeting of all the young and gay every evening; there they pulled to pieces the manners of those who differed from them; every thing was matter of conversation,—religion, morals, love, friendship, good manners, and dress; this tended more to our refinement than any thing else,—the subjects were all new and entertaining,—the booksellers' shops were not stuffed, as now, with novels,—the knowledge of the ladies was gained only by conversing with gentlemen, not by reading themselves, as they had few books to read they could understand.

Whoever had read Pope and Addison, and Swift, with some ill written history, was then thought a learned lady, which character was by no means agreeable. The men thought what knowledge the women had out of their own sphere should be given by themselves, and not picked up from ill chosen books of amusement; though many of them, not without a moral, yet more fitted to reclaim the dissolute than to improve a young untainted mind, that might have passed through life with more happiness and purity than they could with the knowledge these books contained: neither was there any sceptics in those times; religion was just recovered from the power of the devil and the fear of hell. At this period, those terrors began to wear off, and religion appeared in a more amiable light; we were bid draw our knowledge of God from his works, the chief of which is the soul of a good man; then judge if we have cause to fear!—The Christian religion was taught as the purest rule of morality, the belief of a future state, and of a particular providence as a support in every situation; the distresses of individuals were necessary for exercising the good affections of others, and the state of suffering the post of honour.

The intercourse of men and women, though less reserved than at present, was full as pure. They would walk together for hours, or travel on horseback or in a carriage, without any imputation of imprudence; parents had no concern when an admirer was the guide of their daughter, neither had they cause; men shewed their attachment by correcting their faults, informing them what the world

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thought of them, and what was most agreeable to the men if they wished to please them.

About the year 40, riches began to increase considerably. Many returned from the East and West Indies with good fortunes, who had gone abroad after the Union. These picked up estates through the country, and lived in a higher style than the old gentry.

The Rebellion in 45 still more increased our riches; from this time the country took a new form. Whether the dread of arbitrary power disposed us for more liberty, or if another cause, I shall leave the more knowing to determine; but surely it had powerful effects on the manners. It was then that the slavery of the mind began to be spoken of; freedom was in every body's mouth. The fathers would use the sons with such familiarity, that they would be their first friend; and mothers would allow no intimacies but with themselves for their girls. The utmost care was taken that fear of no kind should enslave the mind; nurses were turned off who would tell the young of witches and ghosts. The old ministers were ridiculed who preached up hell and damnation; minds were to be influenced by gentle and generous methods alone. The methods of instruction have been increasing since the time mentioned above,—what may be the effects none know. May not even the love of liberty become the disease of a state, and they be enslaved the worst way by their own passions?—The word servile becomes of late years to be much used; every degree of denying ourselves to please others is *servile*, and for fear of the imputation of this, we are in hazard of tricking ourselves out of the finest feelings of humanity, devotion, love, and friendship, as in each of these there is a degree of self-denial. Nobody will at present share a family dinner with a friend, for fear of being thought servile, neither will they attend them when in distress for the same cause, but satisfy themselves with daily inquiries after them. Nor yet did these manners sit easy on them; there was too much exertion in it, and through all their politeness, they still preserved a sense of their own dignity, so that their attention to others was a degree of humiliation which had more the appearance of duty, and the desire of applause, than real benevolence.

Neither did the manners of the women change much, which were indelicate in the married ones, who were still considered or treated only as the first domesticks; and though the men paid them more attention now than formerly, this tended only to make them easy in company, not less vulgar. Indeed, many threw off all restraint. I am at a loss to account for this, if it was not owing to our young noblemen bringing home French manners, and, lest they should be led into marriages, they made their addresses only to those who were already in that state. No doubt the contrast between those men educated abroad, and those who had seen nothing of the world, would be very great; besides, the manners of the ladies might lead the men to more freedom, as they had not yet learned that restraint so necessary where society is enlarged.

It was about this time that tea-tables were established.* It was the fashion for the men to meet regularly in the change-house, as it was then called, for their different clubs, where they spent the evening in conversation, without much expence; a shilling reckoning was very high, and for people of the first fashion, it was more general from fourpence to eightpence, paying besides for their tobacco and pipes, which was much in use in some of these clubs. They played at backgammon or catch honours for a penny the game. All business was transacted in the forenoon, and in the change-houses; the lawyers were there consulted, and the bill paid by the employer. The wine was sherry in mutchkin-stoups,—every new one was chalked on the head of the stoup,—it was incredible the quantity that was drunk on these occasions. Every body dined at home in private, unless called to some of the entertainments mentioned above; but the tea-table very soon introduced supping in private houses, where young people found themselves happy with one another. They were loath

* The discerning reader will observe, that this passage is inconsistent with what goes before, the good lady's memory having a little failed her respecting the date of established tea-tables.—*Editor.*

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to part, so that supping came to be the universal fashion in Edinburgh; and lest the families they visited might be unprepared, they sent in the morning to know if they were to drink tea at home, as they wished to wait on them; amongst friends this was always considered as a supper, and any of their male acquaintances asked that they could command, to make up the party. The acquaintances made up at public places did not visit in this way; they hired a chair for the afternoon, and run through a number of houses, as is the fashion still. These merry suppers made young people find a want when they went to the country, and to supply the place of them was introduced collations after supper, when the young people met in some of their bed-chambers, and either had tea or a posset, where they sat and made merry till far in the morning; but this meeting was carefully concealed from the parents, who were all enemies to these frolics. These manners continued till the 60, when more of the English fashions took place; one of which was to dine at three, and what company you had should be at dinner. These dinners lasted long. The women sat for half an hour after them, and retired to tea, but gentlemen took their bottle, and generally sat till eight. The women are all the evening by themselves, which puts a stop to that intercourse so necessary for the improvement of both sexes. This naturally encouraged public places, as women had little amusement at home; cut off from male society, and few female friends to occupy the void, they must tire of their mothers and elderly society, and fly to the public for relief. They find gentlemen there, though late in the evening, when they have left their bottle, and too often unfitted for any thing but their bed. In this kind of intercourse there is less chance of forming attachments. The women see men in the worst light, and what impression they make on men, is often forgotten by them in the morning. Thus late dinners have entirely cut off the merry suppers, much regretted by the women, while the men pass their nights in taverns, in gaming, or other amusements, as their temper leads them. Cut off in a great measure from the society of men, it is necessary the women should have some constant amusement. The parents provide for this void as much as possible, in giving them complete education, and what formerly began at ten years of age, or often later, now begins at four or five, and how long it is to continue the new age must determine, for it is not yet fixed in this. Reading, writing, music, drawing, French, Italian, geography, history, with all kinds of needle work, are now carefully taught the girls, that their time may not lie heavy on their hands without proper society; besides this, circulating libraries loaded with books of amusement * * * * * * *

ACCOUNT OF SOME ATMOSPHERIC PHENOMENA.

MR EDITOR,

As I am not aware that most of the appearances to which I am about to direct the attention of your readers, have hitherto been inserted in any of the more respectable journals, I take the liberty of transmitting to you the following account of them, from notices which I recorded at the time of their occurrence, together with a few observations which may serve to explain them. The splendour and rarity of the appearances themselves, as well as their connection with the peculiar condition of the atmosphere during the two or three last years, and with the interesting exhibition of the Aurora Borealis, seem to entitle them to a place in your useful Miscellany.

My journal contains the following notice: "11th September 1814. At about seven o'clock in the evening my attention was arrested by the appearance of a very vivid and well-defined arch of electrical matter, stretching across the sky from N.E. to S.W.—a few thin clouds crossed its eastern limb, where it terminated at 15 or 20 degrees above the horizon, in a pointed form, but not very well defined,—its western limb reached to within 30 or 35 degrees of the horizon; it formed a complete arch in the intermediate space, its colour being white and vivid,—stretching along the dark blue of a frosty sky, its appearance was grander than that of any meteorological phenomenon I have ever witnessed. It remained almost stationary and entire for nearly half an hour, when it gradually and slowly disappeared.

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"During the afternoon there had been light breezes from the south-west, which still continued, and there were distinct indications, from the greenish light and disturbed appearance of the polar regions, of an approaching play of the Aurora Borealis; by degrees these indications became more remarkable; a dark circle of clouds enveloped the northern sky, surmounted at its upper edge by a broad fringe of magnetical light; the cloud, through which occasional flashes of a vivid light were discernible, at last lost the condensed form it had hitherto maintained; and a very beautiful and widely diffused play of the Aurora commenced about ten o'clock. The thermometer during most of this time was at 43° of Fahrenheit, nearly that temperature at which water is understood to be at its greatest density."

I afterwards learned from published accounts, that the luminous arch was seen at Dublin and Newry in Ireland, —in Scotland, at Glasgow, Dumfries, and Annan,—in England, at Whitehaven, Carlisle, Kendal, and Lancaster. I have not learned that it was observed at London, or at any part farther south.

From the following notice in the Annals of Philosophy for 1815, I observe that a similar appearance had been visible in London on the 26th of September of that year. "About a quarter before ten o'clock on Tuesday evening, September 26th, Fornalhaut being a little to the east of the meridian, the barometer being 29. 62, and the thermometer 62, a luminous band appeared near the western horizon, and extended itself gradually towards the east, until it occupied a line beginning at the sixth of the Eagle, passing through the Fox and Goose, between the fifth and sixth of the Swan, across Almaac in Andromeda, and Medusa's head, and terminating a little to the north of the Pleiades. It was very bright and well defined near its western extremity, broader, fainter, and of shorter duration, towards the east. Its medium breadth was about five degrees, and it continued about twenty minutes.

"The afternoon of Tuesday was very wet, with violent gusts of wind; for some time before this luminous appearance, the sky was nearly covered with large dark cumulous clouds, which passed away rapidly towards the north-east, and occasionally shot forth faint corruscations. The barometer and thermometer had been very variable for some days.

"At eleven P. M. the sky was very bright near the northern horizon for about a quarter of an hour, but no Aurora Borealis appeared.

"No opportunity of observing the magnetic variation occurred at the time."

On the evening of the 24th of September 1816, the attention of the inhabitants of this city was again attracted by the appearance of a phenomenon of exactly the same description. The evening had previously been mild and clear. About eight o'clock the luminous arch was seen stretching in much magnificence along the concave of the heavens; a few thin clouds crossed its western limb, but its eastern extremity and zenith portion were remarkably distinct. It was equally well defined with the bow of September 1814; it emitted a sensible light, and gave to the night the appearance of a faint moonshine, though the stars were every where visible throughout the direction of its course. Its place, referred to the constellations, was as follows: Its eastern termination was projected a little south of the Pleiades, which were at that time a few degrees above the horizon; from thence it passed upwards through the constellation of the Triangle, through Andromeda, Pegasus, the Dolphin and the Eagle, its western termination being projected on the constellation Poniatowski. The meteor continued visible, and in much perfection, for nearly two hours, and when it at last slowly disappeared, a faint light continued for some time to mark the place where it had been visible. During the appearance of the meteor, there were the usual indications of an approaching play of the Aurora Borealis, which accordingly took place soon after the bow had disappeared.

It appears, from the foregoing extracts, that a bow of the same description has been visible in some part of this island, during each of the three last autumnal seasons, and indeed very nearly about the same time of the year, that is, in the month of September, and about the time of the equi-

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nox. I have also learned, that about half a year previous to the first of these, namely, on the 17th of April 1814, a similar appearance had been observed in Dublin, and in some parts of the north of England.

Very soon after the last of these appearances, I had an opportunity of observing a similar meteor, though not of so perfect and striking a form; the notice, which I recorded at the time, being as follows: "About ten o'clock of the evening of the 3d of October 1816, my attention was arrested by the appearance of what an eye, less accustomed to such sights, would have considered as a thin and very elongated cloud, which seemed to rise from a mass of lurid vapour that covered a very considerable portion of the western and northern parts of the sky. The thin cloud extended from this mass in a direction passing very near the Great Bear, and, when I first observed it, reaching to Capella in the constellation of the Charioteer. After remaining of this length for some time, it slowly extended itself completely to the eastern horizon. Its sides were considerably broken and ragged; its breadth was not more than half that of the bow of the 24th of September last, and its light was less brilliant, but its arched appearance was equally complete.

"This, however, was not the most striking part of the phenomena of that evening. The bow did not continue visible above perhaps a quarter of an hour, but its place was almost immediately supplied by a very remarkable band, of what I dare say most of those who were abroad at that hour mistook for light coloured clouds, and which stretched, like the bow, quite across the sky from N. W. to N. E. This band had the appearance of being waved, or as if it had consisted of a succession of more prominent and more depressed parts; the depressed portions being duller in colour than the more prominent, and giving to the phenomenon very much the appearance of those fleecy clouds which are frequently visible. The northern edge of this band was distinctly defined; and, as the sky due north was clear, the burnished appearance of this luminous band, seen against the deep azure of the sky beyond it, was singularly impressive. Its southern portion passed gradually into a great extent of murky vapour, through which streams of the same luminous matter that had constituted the bow and the band, were seen stretched in various directions. The sky due north was free from clouds, and only marked near the horizon by that beautiful twilight which indicates an Aurora. A deep mass of troubled vapour, however, rested over the pole of the magnetic meridian, which, it is well known, is at present about twenty-four degrees west of north, and from this mass, both the thin arch and the waved band seemed to originate. The moon was up all the while, and a halo of a very extensive diameter added considerably to the striking appearance of the evening.

"It is worthy of observation, that, during the time of these appearances, the weather was characterized by a genial warmth, to which we have been little accustomed for many months past, and which reminded one of those fine evenings that are commonly enjoyed during the summer months by the inhabitants of the southern countries of Europe. The next day, however, was remarkable for a drizzling rain of a very peculiar character, and the whole day was one of the most dismal we have had during this portentous season."

Beside the appearances I have already detailed, I have, on two other occasions, had an opportunity of remarking similar phenomena, namely, during the month of February 1817, and about the beginning of March of the same year. On the first of these occasions, I observed a bow in every respect similar to the most perfect of those I have already described; of considerably greater breadth indeed, and differing from them only in the less intense nature of the light which it emitted. It seemed, at the time when I observed it, to be just disappearing, but as I did not hear that it had been publicly noticed, I conclude that its light had not been remarkably brilliant at any period of its duration. Its direction was nearly due east and west, and quite in the zenith of this metropolis.

On the second occasion, which was at the distance only of a few days from the occurrence of the last meteor, I had the satisfaction of observing a vast mass of luminous matter, collect-

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ed like a cloud of more than ordinary magnitude, and probably very generally mistaken for such a cloud; from its southern portion, however, it emitted a fine brush of electrical light, which gradually stretched itself eastward, till it nearly reached the horizon, and, having continued in this situation for a short time, the whole mass slowly disappeared from the face of the sky.

I have been particular in describing these appearances for two reasons; because, in the first place, the phenomena themselves are rather of rare occurrence, and are, therefore, worthy of being recorded for the purpose of comparison with future appearances of the same kind. The Aurora itself is well known to be a phenomenon which only occurs after irregular intervals, sometimes of very considerable length; and the splendid meteor of the bow requires so many favourable circumstances for its exhibition, that we cannot wonder it should have been so seldom observed. It seems, indeed, that some old people in the north of England recollect to have seen such appearances in their younger days; but, for many years, the meteor had not been observed in this country, and when it again presented itself three years ago, even the best informed seemed to be equally struck with wonder at the beauty of the phenomenon itself, (for, next to the rainbow, it is certainly, of all meteorological appearances, the most magnificent,) and with astonishment at the little acquaintance they had previously had with it.

My chief inducement, however, in presenting to your readers the above particulars, was that of directing their attention to the following conclusion, namely, that though, when the phenomenon of the bow is exhibited, it seems to be distinguished by several of its properties from the usual characteristics of the matter of an Aurora, we are yet able to trace a series of appearances which serve most completely to connect these phenomena. Masses of electrical matter developed in the atmosphere are, in fact, of much more frequent occurrence than inattentive spectators are apt to believe. These appearances, indeed, are often altogether unnoticed, from their being merely regarded as brilliant clouds; but they exhibit, in fact, every variety of form, from that of a slight fleecy appearance, only to be distinguished by the most skilful eye from ordinary collections of buoyant vapour, to those beautiful phenomena which, under the form of the bow, are amongst the most magnificent appearances which the atmosphere presents. The indications of an Aurora, besides, are the unfailing attendants of such phenomena; frequently, when the Aurora becomes widely diffused, its most vivid corruscations occupy the situation where immediately before the bow had been observed; and every consideration serves to shew, that the matter which is employed in all these appearances is the same, and that its more rapid movement in the case of an Aurora, and the beautiful tints also by which it is characterized, are either the effect of its moving in a freer medium, or of its being developed in a less condensed and accumulated form.

Next to the splendour of the light itself, its beautiful regularity when in the form of a bow, will naturally attract the observation of the curious. There cannot, however, be any doubt, that the arched appearance which the bow assumes is merely an optical, though certainly a very pleasing illusion,—that it results entirely from our disposition to refer the phenomenon to the arched appearance which the heavenly vault itself assumes;—and is to be explained in the same way in which Mr Dalton and Mr Cavendish have accounted for the similar form of the Aurora Borealis. From the demonstration of Mr Dalton, it is certain that the Aurora consists of a great number of straight cylinders parallel to each other, and to the dipping needle at the place where they are seen. The luminous arch, in the same manner, is merely to be considered as a great body of electrical matter, existing in a very condensed or insulated state, either parallel to the horizon of the place of observation, or developed obliquely from strata of air, which are, at the time, in the same state of electrical charge. To this obliquity it may perhaps sometimes be owing that one extremity of the arch seems to be of greater breadth than the other; that extremity subtending

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the greatest angle at the eye, which is developed from a stratum nearer the earth.

The variation of the magnetic needle during such appearances, is one of the most instructive of the circumstances which attend them; and from the following remarkable coincidences it will appear, that a needle may often indicate, by its variations, an uncommon state of atmospherical electricity at a considerable distance from the place of the observer,—in the same manner as the variations of the barometer are known to indicate storms and hurricanes which happen at the distance of many miles or leagues. The finest needle at present kept in Britain is probably that of Colonel Beaufoy; upon referring to the published account of the Colonel's observations for the period of the bow of September 1814, I find the following note: "September 12, variation remarkable, and the morning observation greater than the noon, for which no reason can be assigned. The weather was overcast, and the wind north, blowing at the rate of ten miles an hour." From this note it is evident that Colonel Beaufoy had not been aware of the meteorological appearances which were visible in the more northern parts of the island the evening before, as a knowledge of these appearances would infallibly have suggested to him the solution of the difficulty. With respect to the variations of the needle for September 26, 1815, on which occasion a bow was visible at London, though Colonel Beaufoy does not appear to have known of it, it appears that the variation for noon of that day was 24° 29′ 46″, which is considerably above the mean variation for noon of that month. I have had no opportunity of consulting the variations of the needle about the time of the appearance of the bow of 1816, but I have no doubt that considerable irregularities will be found to have happened about that period. What I have already stated, however, is sufficient to prove not only that such variations do occur when the electricity of the atmosphere is remarkably agitated, (a fact which has been long ascertained,) but that the variations of the needle may indicate changes which are not directly experienced at the place of observation.

The electrical appearances I have now been describing, especially that of the bow when in its greatest perfection, afford the best of all expedients for resolving a problem which is of considerable interest, namely, the average height at which the Aurora takes place. The method of ascertaining this, by means of the parallax of the bow, is well known to philosophers. Unfortunately, however, no such correct observations respecting its relative place in the heavens appear to have been made during the recent appearances, as to afford any sufficient data for determining this problem. In one instance, indeed, I know that such a measurement was made by a gentleman in the north of England, with respect to the bow of September 1814; but his data were confessedly inaccurate, and the result of his calculations was, that the height of the meteor was probably somewhat between six and eight miles. The Aurora itself, however, with which this phenomenon has a very intimate connection, has been placed (and probably correctly placed) at all distances, from sixty to eight hundred and one thousand miles; and, indeed, when we consider the vast space over which the meteors I have been describing were observed, (a space which seems to have embraced some hundred miles in every direction,) we shall readily allow, that their height must have been immensely greater than, from viewing their appearance, we might be disposed to believe; and that the accumulation and extent of matter which they contained, must have been proportionally enormous, to present so remarkable an appearance at so great a distance.

A law was long ago stated by Blagden, (in the Philosophical Transactions, I believe, for 1784,) respecting the order in which the electricity of the atmosphere is developed, which assigns the very highest regions of the air as the sphere appropriated to the phenomena we have been considering. According to this writer, those rapid and destructive exhibitions of this fluid, which are familiarly known to us under the denomination of lightning, are chiefly confined to the region of the clouds, that is, to the lower departments of the circumambient fluid. What we commonly denominate falling stars, are considered as more appropriate to that higher region in which the formation of vapour

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is seldom perceived, though they may also sometimes descend into a lower sphere; while the highest regions are the scene of those appearances which the Aurora and its kindred phenomena exhibit. I apprehend that this account will be found to be substantially correct, though of course these different phenomena will often be seen to shift their situation according to the varying condition of the aërial strata; and I have only to add, that I apprehend a similar law takes place, in the order in which electrical phenomena are presented, as we advance from the equatorial towards the polar regions. It is well known, that the electrical appearance most frequent at the equator, is that of prodigious storms of thunder and lightning; in the serene regions of the temperate zone, (though here also storms of lightning occasionally occur,) the most common appearance which electricity assumes, is that of those gliding meteors which serve only to give additional beauty to the spangled glory of a southern sky; and it is not till we have advanced into those more terrific regions which surround the pole, that the *Aurora* is beheld in constant activity, and in the utmost magnificence it is capable of assuming.

Whatever may be the value of these observations, one thing is certain, that a series of such appearances as I have now been describing, never fails to indicate a deranged state of the electricity of the air. We all know, accordingly, that the condition of the atmosphere, during the three last years, *has* been considerably different from its usual tenor; and the phenomena I have been discussing seem, therefore, worthy of being remarked, not only as materials of philosophical history, and as appearances in themselves of considerable interest and beauty, but as concomitants also of that very remarkable weather which has been one of the "signs" of these last eventful years, and which seems lately to have extended itself over a very considerable portion of the civilised globe. I am, yours respectfully, P.

Edinburgh, Sept. 3, 1817.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF BIRDS.

MR EDITOR,

I HAVE read with no small degree of pleasure the Miscellaneous Observations on Natural History, by your correspondent P. in your last number; and am convinced, that many facts and important remarks may be made known in that easy and familiar manner, which would not warrant an elaborate or scientific essay on the subject. For many years as a boy I was accustomed to travel to my parish-school, over a district of wild uncultivated country, extending for two or three miles; and when relieved from the more important duties of the day, our great amusement in the spring and summer months, was to ramble over that country in search of birds' nests. Now, Mr Editor, even in those days I was struck with many singular discoveries (for such I still consider them) in the economy of some birds, that I have not as yet seen explained, or even hinted at, in any scientific work which I have perused on the subject. I shall, therefore, trouble you with some of those observations which were made as a boy, and which I have often had an opportunity of confirming since.

To begin, Sir, with the Lapwing or Green-plover, (*Tringa Vanellus.*)

This bird, it is well known, generally deposits its eggs in low marshy ground. It is not at the trouble of building a nest, as I have never observed more than a small round hole scratched in some little eminence, with perhaps a few particles of *fog* or dried grass between the eggs and the moist earth. It lays *four eggs;* and what I have to remark as deserving of consideration is, that if the nest is discovered as soon as the bird has begun to lay, and you remove an egg, so as to allow only one or two to remain in the nest, the bird will continue to lay for ten or twelve days, nay, for weeks successively. If, however, you allow the number to reach *four*, it immediately begins to hatch, and there is no farther deposition of eggs; but if any of the eggs are then removed, that is, after the natural number has once been completed, it immediately forsakes the nest and prepares a new one. I have myself continued to remove the eggs for ten days at a time, and always found a fresh one every morning, and have often tried also to take away one after the ordinary number *four* had been completed, but always found the nest immediately forsaken.

I have tried the same experiment

with the common *Lark*. If you allow only one or two eggs to remain in the nest, the bird will go on to lay for a time indefinite; but if they reach three the bird will hatch. The common number of eggs in a Lark's nest is five; but it will hatch with three.

I hope some of your readers will try to explain these *facts* upon rational principles. They have often puzzled me, more particularly as I have not seen them noticed in any work on the natural history of birds. Here we have a bird, which, as soon as it has deposited *four* eggs in its nest, immediately ceases to produce any more, but if disturbed in its arrangements will go on to form five, perhaps ten times that number, and yet cease the moment it has collected its usual number for hatching in the same spot.

Is it any species of food which the hen bird uses? or can it be the impregnation of the male one, that keeps up this production of eggs, and the refraining from which causes the sudden cessation,—for sudden it must be considered, when it takes place in the course of twenty-four hours?

Birds that build well regulated nests, are very assiduous in their labour until the whole is completed. The male is, in general, the carrier of the materials, and the female the architect. Many a long hour have I watched the operations of the *Blackbird* and the *Mavis*, both of which build very elegant nests, and somewhat similar in their construction. These birds generally build on the banks of a running stream, either among the roots of the hazel-bush or in the decayed trunk of a tree. The first wall is composed of strong grass or the small branches of trees; these are again lined with a coating of fine clay: The *Mavis* is content with these two, but the *Blackbird* lines the clay with fine hair or wool, and altogether forms a most comfortable and warm abode for its young.

In former days, when cock-fighting was more in vogue than at present, the great desideratum was a game-cock that had been hatched by a *Magpie*. The being nursed by such a stepmother was considered as rendering the hero invincible. Yet no small degree of finesse was necessary to beguile the *Pyet*, and the being able to paint the hen's egg so as to impose upon that *wily* bird, was considered an acquirement of no trifling consequence among the knowing ones of those days. If the *Magpie* discovered the egg, it was indignantly thrown out; but if the young bird was once hatched, she was even more attached to the stranger than to her own offspring. I have seen several game-cocks that first saw the light on the lofty summit of an old ash tree that grew in my father's *kail-yard*. They were certainly much more spirited, and, if I may be allowed the expression, *more cruel* than when hatched by their natural mother. Here, again, Mr Editor, we have a field for the speculations of the natural historian.—By the bye, if you disturb a *Magpie* in her operation of building, she will immediately remove the sticks she has collected to another branch of the same tree, but much *lower down* than the one she first occupied.

If you think these facts worth communicating to your readers, I shall have much pleasure in supplying you with several others not less interesting in the natural history of animals as well as birds. I am your sincere well-wisher, A.

Edinburgh, 4th Sept. 1817.

STATISTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES OF GLASGOW, PAISLEY, GREENOCK, AND THE ADJACENT DISTRICTS.

MR EDITOR,

The commerce and manufactures which have their chief seat in the lower ward of Lanarkshire, in parts of the respective counties of Renfrew, Dumbarton, and Ayr, and of which the city of Glasgow may be deemed the centre and emporium, have evidently been attracted by local and natural pre-existing advantages.

The great river and firth of Clyde, situated on the western coast, and even more accessible from the Atlantic Ocean than the Mersey or the Severn, is peculiarly adapted for the convenient prosecution of that great commercial intercourse with the new hemisphere, of which Glasgow has become the principal Scottish depôt.

The circumstances which, united to the demands of external commerce, contributed to localise and to extend the manufacturing operations of these

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districts, may be traced to the cheapness of the coal and iron, with which the whole adjacent country abounds, the number of the springs and waterfalls, and the low rate at which the wages of labour have been almost uniformly kept, partly by means of its own numerous population, and partly by an almost incessant influx of strangers from the Western Highlands, from Ireland, and generally from the whole surrounding counties.

From these physical advantages, the manufactures of this district unquestionably took their rise, and the same causes which first attracted seem likely to render them permanent. Indeed, it is apparent, that to a similar relative situation, and to the presence of the very same minerals, we must ascribe the local residence of the corresponding branches of industry, which have fixed themselves in Lancashire, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire; and which have given to Manchester and Birmingham, those extensive manufactures, and to Liverpool, that widespread commerce, which are now in some degree rivalled at Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock.

The commerce of the Clyde began to extend rapidly only about the middle of the last century; and the first intercourse of great importance was that with the North American colonies, which now form the United States.

The exports were such manufactures as the country then afforded; and the returns were chiefly in tobacco, of which, at one time, more was brought into the Clyde than into any other British river, the Thames itself not excepted. The traffic was limited to few hands; and splendid fortunes were realized by some of the individuals who were engaged in it. It was, however, suspended by the war, which terminated in the separation of the colonies from the Parent State.

At the peace of 1783, the intercourse with America was re-opened, and has ever since formed a considerable branch of the commerce of the Clyde; subject only to the occasional suspensions produced by political contingencies, and to the more frequent stagnations arising from glutted markets.

The American trade since 1783 has been incomparably more general than formerly, both in its channels, and in its returns; and of the tobacco trade, once so great, not more has revert to the Clyde than its own natural pr portion.

During the same period, the col nial traffic with the West Indies h progressively extended, with an un formity, only casually interrupted l those events, which are common every branch of extended commerc Like that of America, it is now ram fied and divided amongst a much grea er number of mercantile houses ar individuals, than in its earlier time and is carried on with that mixture success and misfortune, which is i separable from extended commerc and general competition.

A considerable trade certainly e isted in the Clyde, before manufa tures were much cultivated in Gla gow and the vicinity. But as the d mand for the finer sorts increased wi the opulence of the colonists, a stimul to produce these upon the spot fro whence they were exported was n turally and gradually created. A v riety of manufactures, to emula those of England, were consequent attempted; some of which prov abortive, whilst others were gradual matured and established. It was nc however, until about the close of tl American contest, that a new man facture was introduced; which, fo tered in its infancy by a general r vival of foreign commerce, has sin incomparably exceeded all others, bo in extent and in the investment capital.

The cotton manufacture has i deed assumed so entirely the charact of a *staple*, that, upon its prosperi or decline, the chief interests of tl whole western districts are consider to depend. To analyze, therefore, some degree, the nature, tendency, ar operations of this new colossal, a though depressed manufacture, w be admitted to be of paramount in portance in every inquiry into tl manufacturing state of Scotland.

The origin of the British man facture of cotton goods must be tr ced to the invention of the spinni machinery. This wonderful mech nical improvement was introduced in Scotland at the very period alluded t and various cotton-mills were erecte where waterfalls could be found su ficiently powerful to give motion the extensive range of machine which is required. These waterfa

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being dispersed over the whole country, seemed at first to threaten the dissolution of the local monopoly of the manufacture around Glasgow. But the improvement of Mr Watt upon the steam-engine fixed the locality more closely than ever to his native city. Distance from the only market where the produce of mills was in demand, and the expence of transporting bulky commodities, absorbed more capital than steam-engines—waterfalls were soon disregarded; and the site of a cotton-mill was, and is now, valued in proportion to its contiguity to the market.

The manufacturers of yarn into cloth have chiefly resided in Glasgow and Paisley; although these manufacturers have, in prosperous times, employed operative weavers, resident in almost every county of Scotland, from Aberdeen to the Border.

The spinning and weaving departments of the cotton manufacture have been generally conducted as distinct branches of trade, although some few companies have combined both these operations. Besides these two great divisions, many subsidiary establishments may now be considered as attached to, and almost exclusively forming branches of, the cotton manufacture. These are the works of bleachers, dyers, printers, cloth-lappers, &c.; and to these again are attached dry-salters, vitriol manufacturers, and many other practical chemists, whose preparations are used in the various processes of the bleaching, dyeing, and printing departments. We may add machine-makers, loom and shuttle-makers, turners, and many other mechanical tradesmen who are employed exclusively, or extensively, in forwarding the operations of the cotton trade.

About thirty-two years have now elapsed since this manufacture began to excite general attention in Scotland; and a period of equal duration, so eventful in political, commercial, and manufacturing vicissitudes, has never as yet occupied the page of history. In these vicissitudes, this traffic, from its rapid and unparalleled extension, has been deeply involved.

In its infant and early stages, the public opinion seemed to regard it as opening a new mine of unexplored and inexhaustible wealth, in which adventurers of all descriptions were eager to embark, and to participate. For a few years past, the prevailing fashion has been to consider it as a trade rapidly declining, and so unprosperous, that few cautious and uninvolved capitalists would choose to venture their property within its vortex. Both opinions contain some truth, mixed with a degree of exaggeration bordering on romance.

Experience has proved the cotton manufacture to be a trade capable of great extension, and productive, within due limits, of important national and individual wealth; but the same infallible guide has unequivocally demonstrated that it may, and that it has been pushed too far; that it has attracted more than its legitimate proportion of public attention, and that it has absorbed more than its merited share both of capital and of industry. Under unparalleled depression, therefore, it continues at the present moment not only to exist, but to be forced to an extent not much less than it had attained, even in its more prosperous and seductive periods. It has ceased for a time to remunerate the workman, or to be lucrative to his employer, merely because it has greatly overstepped the natural and spontaneous demand.

The marketable prices have certainly declined, in a degree unprecedented in any other manufacture of large extent, during an equal lapse of time; but the cost of production has also experienced a great, although certainly not an equivalent, declension. Much of the reduction of cost is fairly to be ascribed to the improvement of machinery, the division of labour, and the gradual increase of practical skill and dexterity; but much has also been abstracted from the profits of stock, and probably more has been wrung from the wages of labour.

In the degree of depression, however, the spinning and weaving departments have been very differently affected, both in relation to manufacturers and operatives. The spinner may be said to have suffered little, when his state is compared with that of the weaver. The causes which have produced this inequality are easily developed; and some of them are peculiarly interesting to the future prospects of the British manufacturer, and of the country generally,

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in so far as it is interested in the prosperity of the cotton trade.

In order to erect and complete an establishment for spinning cotton-yarn, upon a scale sufficiently extensive to obtain the reduction of labour which is indispensably necessary, two considerable, or rather large capitals, are required. The first is sunk in buildings, machinery, and utensils; the second is kept floating, in order to meet the outlays for wages, purchase of raw materials, and contingent expences. Hence the competition is limited to those who are already affluent, or can command capital, and who are willing to embark that capital in a manufacturing speculation, from which, whether prosperous or not, they can seldom withdraw it without incurring great and certain loss.

The weaving branch of the cotton manufacture, on the contrary, has been at all times more accessible to persons of small or of no capital, than perhaps any other manufacture whatever. There are no buildings or machinery to erect, and scarcely any tools or implements to provide. Workshops are built or rented, and utensils are provided exclusively by the operatives themselves. From these facilities of introduction, an immense number of small manufacturers constantly enter into the competition, very many of whom certainly neither succeed, nor can long maintain the position into which they have thrust themselves. Still, however, successors have been always found willing, in their turns, to try their fortunes, to hope for the best, and to encounter the worst which can happen.

Although an influx of this kind must, of necessity, have greatly injured regular competitors possessing capital, yet the constant demand for yarn, which it has created and supported, must, upon the whole, have greatly overbalanced, to the spinner, the losses to which it has subjected him, by occasional bad debts.

The influence of this demand has constantly tended to raise the prices of yarn, even under very great depressions of the prices of cloth; and, upon the whole, the trade of spinning has almost uniformly afforded profit, and sometimes great profit. The prices of yarn in the market have indeed sunk almost inconceivably low, and the wages of the operative spinners, reckoned by the quantity, have fallen at least as much as those of the weavers. Yet, singular as the fact must appear, a spinner can still earn 30s. per week, by fewer hours of labour than a weaver can earn 10s.

The solution of this seeming paradox is simple, although curious and important. The proprietors of cotton-spinning manufactories found their interest to lie in improving that machinery which was their own property, and which was known to be susceptible of immense improvement. Hence they were enabled to reduce their *prices* of labour, with very little diminution of the actual wages of the workman.

The tools, looms, or machinery, of the weaving department, abandoned by the manufacturer exclusively to the workmen, have been very little improved. These proprietors, it must be obvious, have not time, nor capital, nor education, sufficient to fit them for the intense and unremitted study of economical improvement, which would be necessary to reduce prices without lessening wages.

The unfavourable contrast between the relative situations of the spinner and the weaver will naturally excite the inquiry,—Why has the latter branch been so prodigiously overstocked? In the earlier and more prosperous years of the cotton manufacture, the mode of conducting it was such, as to render the situation of a weaver uncommonly alluring to the operative class of mankind. A weaver was limited to no precise residence, nor confined to the hours of a regular manufactory. He could generally procure a loom and utensils, at least partly, upon credit; and his proportion of a shop-rent rarely exceeded 12s. or 15s. annually. Whenever a certain quantity of work was finished, he could carry it instantly to the warehouse, on any lawful day, and he as instantly received payment, or a sum to account, frequently exceeding what he had actually earned. Thus he was sole and uncontrolled master of his own time, could make a holiday when he chose, and repair his loss by working a few extra hours upon other occasions. If active and frugal, he had it in his power, by working hard, to accumulate money;—if fond of recreation, he could indulge his propensity, to a moderate degree, without serious injury or inconvenience. Nor was his labour of that fatiguing kind which

requires great strength, or produces great exhaustion. Many descriptions of goods could be woven by boys of only eight or ten years of age. Hence poor people, with large families, eagerly crowded their children into a business by which they were able, in a very few months, not only to maintain themselves, but to assist their parents and relations. Masters were easily found willing, without any fee or premium, to teach apprentices for a moiety of their earnings; and to bind them only three, or, at the utmost, four years; and many young men, so instructed, became independent in income, and their own masters, at the early age of 15 or 16 years. The trade was long, indeed, very attractive, especially in some species of fancy-work. So late as 1800, the writer of this article had occasion to see a legal proof taken, by which it appeared, that a weaver, by overlooking and teaching six apprentices, had earned, on an average of six months, above L. 4, 12s. weekly for his moiety, and had in a few years amassed property to the extent of upwards of L. 500. These advantages will fully account for that overstock of operatives, to which the present depression is solely attributable.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ON THE ORIGIN OF THE NATION AND NAME OF THE PICTS. BY FINN MAGNUSEN, PROFESSOR, &c. &c. COPENHAGEN, 1817.

MR EDITOR,

THE following is a translation, from the Danish, of a dissertation of the learned Professor Magnusen of Copenhagen. It is only an appendix to a larger work by the same author, in which his profound knowledge of the language and antiquities of his native country, *(Iceland,)* * and of Scandinavia, has enabled him to bring forward many learned, ingenious, and interesting illustrations of the poems ascribed to Ossian. The two remaining sections of the Treatise on the Picts shall follow in the subsequent numbers of your Miscellany, if you consider them as worthy of insertion. The remarks on Ossian may be the subject of consideration at some future period. R. JAMIESON.

* Mr Magnusen is one of the most distinguished of the Icelandic literati. Vide Sir George Mackenzie's *Travels*, p. 318.

Section First.

The poetical narratives of Ossian, compared with the histories of the times which he has celebrated, shew the great power of the northern men at sea, and their warlike expeditions to the British Islands, even long before the days of *Fingal*. "In other days," said Carril, in the introduction to Swaran's *Invasion of Ireland*, "came the sons of Ocean to Erin. A thousand vessels bounded on waves to Ullin's lovely plains. The sons of Innisfail arose to meet the race of dark-brown shields." In several passages in the poems, mention is made of such invasions, both of *Ireland* and *Morven*, by the men of Lochlin or Scandinavia, long before the times of the poet. Connal had often fought with them. "The fleet of Ocean comes. Connal falls. His tomb is seen by the mariner from the waves of the north." A hereditary feud between the young Fingal and the Northern men seems to have continued, without interruption, till about the year 211, as the bards, after *Caracul's* retreat, sang, "Our delight will be in the war of the ocean; our hands shall grow red in the blood of Lochlin." Men of Scandinavian extraction had, long before this, made themselves masters of a part of North Britain. The ancestors of *Dubh*, or *Duth Maruno*, had, as we see, for many years, possessed territories there. The Scandinavian *Culgorm*, who is called king, fled thither from Ithorno, expelled by his father, who was prince of the country, as *Rolf*, the conqueror, and the founder of the royal house of Normandy, was driven out of Norway by *Harald Haarfager*.* *Duthmaruno* and his successors are by the bard denominated chiefs of *Croncharn*, and kings of *Crathmocraulo*. He himself adhered to the religion of his fathers.

* The Norman *Rollo*, or *Rolf*, became the founder of a race of powerful dukes and kings. *Einar*, one of his brothers, was prince of the Orkneys, a distinction which was enjoyed by his descendants; while another of his brothers, called *Hrollang*, died a poor peasant in Iceland;—so different were the fortunes, in those days, of Northern men of the same rank and family, among their expatriated countrymen!

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In the war against *Starno* and *Swaran*, which is described in *Cathloda*, he was the chief leader of the Fingalians, probably because, being of Norwegian descent, he was better acquainted with the country and its inhabitants. He is described as a warrior without fear, a mighty hunter, and an adventurous seaman on *Crum Thormoth's* wave.*

Concerning him and his forefathers, mentioned by Ossian as mighty champions, his father *Starnmor*, and his son *Ceandona*, (*i. e.* head of the people,) the Scots still have many popular tales, although, according to Macpherson, the poems on which they are founded are long since lost. *Duthmaruno's* territory was in the north of Scotland, over against the Orkney Islands, and consequently in the vicinity of Caithness.† As he, brave and renowned as he was, is seldom mentioned in Fingal's expeditions, he seems to have been his ally, but not his subject. As to the rest, Duthmaruno gave powerful assistance in the conflict with the race of Morni, and probably also was, in no small degree, instrumental in preserving to Fingal the throne of his fathers; Duthmaruno seems, therefore, to have been one of the most powerful princes of the Caledonians in his day.

Beside this celebrated northern family, who had, as we see, so early established a dominion in Scotland, it appears to me that there are traces of many others to be met with in the tales of Ossian.

In the bard's own time, the town of *Balclutha*, *Alcluithe*, or *Alclyde*, appears to have been in the possession of a people of Scandinavian origin, and to have been the capital of one of their kingdoms in Britain. It lay a little to the north of the wall of Antoninus, on the east coast of Scotland. Bede says, that the name of the town, in the British language, signifies *Clyde's Rock*. The same denomination would, in old Norse, be *Hallr Klydar*.* The name of the river (*Klydà* or *Klythà*) may also be derived from the same language. It has several large and steep falls, from the din and roaring of which it might well be called *Klyda* or *Klydà*. In Icelandic, at present, the noise of a torrent or waterfall is called *Klidr* (or *Klydr*) and *Ar klidr*. In this city was born Gildas,† the eldest British historian, late in the fifth, or early in the sixth century. His own name, as well as that of his father, seems to be of Scandinavian origin. According to some writers, his father was called *Caunus*, and according to others, *Navus*. The names *Kaun* and *Nefi*

* *Thormod* or *Thormoth*, a genuine old Scandic name, by which many brave men were designated, where it occurs in Ossian, must be understood to refer to Scandinavian men, or places inhabited by them. The Gaëlic *Mod* or *Moth*, according to Shaw, like the Icelandic *Madr*, or *Mathr*, signifies "a man." The Welsh term *Modwr*, a king, or ruler, probably had originally the same meaning; and *Thormoth* may here mean *Nor-men*, many of whom connected the name of *Thor*, their chief object of worship, with their own, and might, with reason, call themselves *Thor's Men*, (as in fact they are called by the Pagan Scald *Einar Skalaglam*, in the poem called *Velleckla*, quoted by *Snorro* in *Oluf Tryggveson's Saga*, cap. 16,) as those of them who were afterwards baptized called themselves *Christ's Men*, and *Cross Men*, as we see in the unpublished History of Saint Olaf, and the battle of Stiklestad. If we are right in this conjecture, *Crum Thormoth* will signify simply "the Nor-men's bay, or gulf," as *crum* has the same meaning in the Gothic as in the Celtic dialects; and it may here designate a bay then called *Thor's-men's-bay*, a name which, in all likelihood, it derived from the inhabitants of the neighbourhood being from the north.

† According to *Ralph Higden*, *Matthew of Westminster*, and others, *Caithness*, the first settlement of the Picts in Scotland, was conceded to them by the Britons. It is also very probable that they came hither over the adjacent Orkney Islands, from those that were more distant, and from Norway. The names of the oldest towns in the county of Caithness, such as *Wick*, *Thurso*, &c. are Scandinavian; and in the History of Orkney (*Orknejinga Saga*) we find many places denominated after the god Thor, such as Thòrsà, (*Thor's-brook*,) Thòrsej, (*Thor's-isle*,) Thòrsvich, (*Thor's-cove*,) and Thòrsdalr, (*Thor's-dale*.)

* Balklyda, (*Balklytha* or *Ballklytha*,) either from *Bali*, a height, or *Ballr*, a hill or cliff, would bear nearly the same signification. There is a brook in Iceland called Ballarà, from which a country house in the neighbourhood has its name. According to Macpherson, *bal* here means a building or place of abode, and the Icelandic *ból*, *bœli*, has the same import, as has also the Greek βολις.

† According to Pinkerton's "Enquiry into the History of Scotland," &c. Vol. I. Part II. cap. 15.

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were in use in the north in the earliest times of which we have any account, but have since been laid aside. Two or three centuries before Beda's time, reigned in the same city of *Balclutha*, or *Alclyde*, the princes celebrated by Ossian in the poem of *Carthon, Reuthamir,* * (properly *Reidamer* or *Hreidmar*, whom Fingal slew,) and his daughter's son *Carthon*.

It is worthy of remark, that their kingdom is called "The Stranger's Land," and *Carthon* himself and his followers, the "Sons of the Strangers," and the "Sons of the Sea." The last-mentioned hero invaded Morven with a numerous fleet, to revenge the death of Reuthamir and the destruction of Balclutha. He fell in this expedition. His mother was called *Moina*. Speaking of her visits to the grave of Carthon, the poet says, "She is seen, not like the daughters of the hill; her robes are from the Stranger's Land, and she is still alone." Macpherson describes the people of Morven, and the other Britons, as perfectly resembling each other in manners; but here *Moina* seems to have worn a costume quite different from that of the women of Morven; and the circumstance of her being still alone, gives us to understand that she belonged to a people of different origin and manners. It is, moreover, remarkable, that the dying *Carthon* breaks out into the following lamentation:—"A foreign tomb receives, in youth, the last of Reuthamir's race. Darkness dwells in Balclutha: the shadows of grief in Crathmo." From this last passage, one may conclude that he was nearly related to the fore-mentioned Scandinavian family which ruled in *Crathmo Craulo*. †

I am also of opinion, that the Scandic inhabitants of the maritime parts of Scotland are celebrated in the poem of *Lathmon and Oithona*. Macpherson thinks that Lathmon, (perhaps *Lathmondr*, or *Ladmondr*,) son of King *Nuath*, (*Knut?*) who reigned in *Dunlathmon*, (which, in the Norse language, would have been called *Tun Ladmundar* or *Ladmunds Tun*,) was a Pictish prince from the east coast of Scotland. Several circumstances induce me to suppose that he was of northern origin. He seems, at first, to have been in close alliance with *Dunrommath*, * a prince or chief of the Orkney Islands, as he accompanied him in a warlike expedition against Fingal's kingdom. They there lost a great battle. *Dunrommath* saved himself by flight; but *Lathmon* was made prisoner, and was under the necessity of accepting peace on such terms as the conqueror chose to impose upon him. This, no doubt, put an end to the good understanding between *Lathmon* and *Dunrommath*; and the latter, shortly after, when *Lathmon* was gone to "the wars of his fathers, to the moss-covered rock of Duthormoth," † attacked his castle, put to death those who defended it, and carried off *Oithona*, (perhaps *Oithuna*, or *Auduna*,) who was betrothed to *Gaul*, Fingal's general. Lathmon's confederacy with a prince of Orkney against Fingal, and the pure northern word *Thormod*, from which either his fathers or their possessions were denominated, clearly indicate their Scandic extraction. The dying Oithona calls her fathers "the race of the mighty," and speaks of their castle as large, and well fortified.

I suspect that the families of *Duthmarunos, Carthon*, and *Lathmon*, like most of the other inhabitants of the Orkneys and Shetland, were of Scan-

* This name the hero received from the storm that drove his father Clessamor from Balclutha, and is said by Macpherson to signify "the murmur of waves." The Scandinavian *Kárdunr* (perhaps of old pronounced *Karthonr*, the accusative case of which is *Karthon*) means "the storm's noise," or din.

† Carthon was the last of Reuthamir's race; and his kingdom probably devolved to his countrymen of Scandinavian descent. Some historians are of opinion that *Alclyde*, which is also called *Dunclyde*, (*i. e.* Clydetown,) with the adjacent territory, was in the possession of the Picts from the middle of the second till the fifth century. In the fifth century, the kingdom of *Strathclyde*, in which *Alclyde* lay, is said to have had British Kings, whose names, nevertheless, seem of Scandinavian origin. Their vicinity to the Romans, and the Britons under their dominion, made them also, in time, be considered as Britons.

* Probably the Scandinavian *Dunromadr*, *Dunromathr*, or *Dunromudr*, one that has a thundering voice; a thundering warrior.

† This name signifies either *Thormodsburgh*, or Normensburgh.

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dinavian extraction, and of the race of men who were afterwards called *Picts*. So are the eldest Orcadians and Shetlanders called in the British history.* Ossian gives us unequivocal evidence, that these islands, in his time, and long before, were governed by northern princes, and that their inhabitants adhered to the religion of Scandinavia; as well as that *Northmen* and *Danes*, from *Lochlin* and *Sora*, had here harbours and places of resort in their expeditions against the larger British isles. These notices of the bard perfectly agree with some later Latin writers, who make the *Picts* and *Saxons*—under which names were included also in those days, military adventurers from Denmark and Norway—after being overthrown by the Romans in Britain, flee to Orkney and Thule, (by which is certainly meant either Shetland or Norway.) Thus, Claudian (*de IV. Consulatu Honorii, V.* 31.) says,

——Manduerunt Saxone fuso
Orcades, incalsit Pictorum sanguine Thule,
Scotorum cumulos flevit glacialis Ierne.

In his poem *de Bello Getico*, the same poet sings to fame,

——Britannum
Terruit oceanum, et nostro procul axe remotum
Insolito belli tremefecit murmure Thulen.

The Roman writers frequently mention a certain alliance, or relationship, between the Saxons and Picts; that is, the Saxons, Scandians, and Caledonian Picts of northern extraction. Claudian thus expresses himself:

——Domito Saxone Thetys
Mitior aut fracto secura Britannia Picto.

Sidonius Apollinaris speaks of Caledonian "*Britons, Scots,* and *Picts,* with the *Saxons,*" † as conquered by the Romans; and I shall soon have occasion to bring forward more to the same purpose from other Latin authors.

Ossian also agrees with the oldest British historical writers. Gildas, in his second chapter, thus expresses himself: "Britannia—duabus primum gentibus transmarinis* vehementer sævis, Scotorum a Circione, Pictorum ab Aquilone, calcabilis multos stupet gemitque per annos." Here it appears clearly that both nations had come to Britain from beyond the seas; the *Picts* from the north, (*i. e.* Scottish Islands, Orkneys, Thule, and the Hebrides,) to which they had sailed from *Scandinavia;* and the *Scots* from the west; that is, from *Ireland* or *Ierne,* † which was their first place of residence known to us. The testimony of Gildas is certainly of great weight. *Schioening* has, in his History of Norway, brought forward and cleared up passages from Beda, Nennius, Geoffrey of Monmouth, Ralph Higden, Matthew of Westminster, John of Fordun, Ordericus Vitalis, and others, which shew that the Picts were a Gothic people, particularly from Norway. Buchan-

* The foundations of those buildings called *Pechts Houses*, ruins of which are still found in Scotland and its subjec islands, bear the strongest resemblance to those of Iceland, where the Norwegian architecture of the ninth century is still followed.

† Here it is to be observed, that the Caledonian Britons, Scots, and Picts, are mentioned as three nations radically different. So indeed they were; but the stranger Scots and Picts afterwards subdued the native Britons, and divided their country between them. Caledonia at one time contained two principal kingdoms, Pictland and Scotland, both of which at last coalesced under the latter name.—In like manner, the Saxons, Jutes, and Angles deprived South Britain of its independence and its name, after the Belgæ, Cimbri, and Romans had preceded them in the subjugation of the inhabitants. Gaul underwent a similar fate from the Northern Franks; as did also a part of it afterwards from their Norman kinsmen, &c. When we consider the conquests which the Scandinavian and Teutonic nations made in Ireland and England, even while the latter continued under the powerful protection of the Romans, we are necessarily led to the conclusion that Scotland, which lay nearer to Scandinavia, was not exempted from the same visitations.

* Beda says he uses the term *transmarini* to designate the Picts and Scots who lived north of the friths of the Clyde and Forth. In Gildas this meaning can hardly be admitted; but later writers have perhaps adopted the word from him, without being at the pains to ascertain very distinctly its original meaning.

† Thus Claudian, in the verse here quoted, makes the barbarians flee out of Britain, each to his original home; the Saxons and Picts to Orkney and Thule, and the Scots to Ireland.

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an also considers it as not improbable, that the oldest inhabitants of the Orkney islands were Picts, although he acknowledges that they have always spoken the Gothic (Norse or Icelandic) language; * as he likewise admits, that the Picts came to Scotland from Sarmatia, (the Asiatic part of which has doubtless been the original country of the Northern *Asæ*,) over the Cimbric Chersonesus. With this agree several of the historians of the North, who mention the invasions and settlements of the Scandinavians in Scotland in the elder times; and their notices have been partly collected by *Schioening*, in his History of Norway. *Saxo* was also acquainted with several ancient traditions to the same purpose.

My opinion, then, is, that the Picts were chiefly Scandinavians, or descended from Scandinavians, with a mixture, perhaps, of Saxons and Belgians. † It is probable, that people of these nations fled to the coasts of Caledonia on occasion of the sea-flood which, long before the Christian era, inundated and changed the face of a great part of many countries in Europe; or, in consequence of other events on the northern continent, which obliged the inhabitants to emigrate in great numbers. The Britons in England are supposed to have been in a state of extreme barbarity before the arrival of the Belgæ among them; and, in Scotland, they were doubtless not more civilized. The Scandinavians, in the time of *Pytheas*, had already houses, agriculture, apiaries, and many of the arts and accommodations of polished life, to which the Caledonians were strangers. It is, therefore, not unlikely that the Scandian emigrants brought these with them, along with their language, to the Caledonian islands, coasts, and lowlands, where they settled. Macpherson acknowledges, that the Scots first learnt to build stone houses and large ships from the Scandinavians; but these two can hardly have been the only arts they learnt from them. The northern men, for instance, manufactured better and more beautiful arms. *Luno*, or *Lunn*, a smith of *Lochlin*, is celebrated as the maker of the sword of Fingal, and Ossian seems to me to apply to the Scandinavians, by way of distinction, the epithet *iron-shielded*; whereas, in their first wars with the Romans, the shields of the Caledonians were of wicker, covered with leather. * This, and other arts and improvements, † soon gave a smaller

* *Torfæus* appeals to Daniel Langhorn's *Antiquitates Albionenses*, (*Elenchus Ant. Alb.* p. 275,) where the Gothic origin of the Picts is contended for on many good grounds. This rare treatise, printed in London 1673, which is not to be found in the public libraries in Copenhagen, I have been so fortunate as to procure after this dissertation was well nigh finished. It is true, I found in it little that was new to me concerning that people's origin; but the perusal of the book confirmed me in my former opinion, and I was particularly struck with one pertinent observation of the author's;—"That the express testimony of the elder British historians, such as Beda, was of infinitely more weight than the conjectures of more modern writers, such as Camden." There is also a peculiar coincidence between these and the answer of the renowned Belisarius, in the fifth century, as quoted by Procopius, (*de Bello Gothico*, 2. *B.* 4. *cap.*) when the ambassador of the Goths demanded that Sicily should be given up to them: *Et nos item Britanniam Gothos habere sibi permittimus, Sicilia longe præstantiorem.* From this we may conclude, that the Saxons and Picts were in those days regarded by the Romans as a Gothic people. Even in the ninth century, the inhabitants of Scandinavia were, in their poetical dialect, called *Gautar*, *Gotnar*, or *Goths*, although only certain provinces in Sweden then retained the name of *Gautland* and *Gothland*.

† The conquests of these allies, and their settlements in England and Ireland at a very early period, are too well known to be enlarged upon here. Scotland lay much nearer to the coasts of Scandinavia than the rest of Britain, and bordered (if one may use the expression) upon the islands in the North Sea, of which the northern men had possessed themselves long before the days of Ossian.

* The numerous army of North Britons which, under Galgacus, gave battle to the Romans under Agricola, appears to have been tolerably well provided with arms both of iron and copper. They had no mines worked in their own country, and little or no intercourse with the Romans, and, therefore, can hardly be supposed to have either forged arms for themselves, or procured them from the Roman Britons, but may have had them from the northern men, who were so celebrated as armourers in the days of Fingal.

† Tacitus in his *Germania*, *cap.* 44,

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number of Scandinavians a decided superiority over, and consideration and distinction among, the Aborigines. At that time the Celtic dialect, which is spoken in Scotland, without doubt, differed less widely from the language of Scandinavia than it now does, so that the inhabitants of the two countries were more easily intelligible to each other than the Romans and Britons were. The before-alleged circumstances have either given rise to the establishment of petty states by the strangers themselves, by amicable compact, or their mixing with the natives in such a manner, that the strangers partly became their princes and chiefs.

It was thus that the Scandian *Colgorm* came to high honour; and the ancestors of both the kings, Lathmon and Carthon, were his countrymen. The Scandians have chiefly spread themselves, from the side of Caithness, over the lowest and most fertile part of the country, which afterwards composed the kingdom of the Picts.

(To be continued.)

ON THE WANT OF ACCOMMODATION AT THE DUNBLANE MINERAL SPRINGS.

MR EDITOR,

During an excursion in Scotland lately, I paid a visit, for a few days, to the mineral springs discovered some years ago near Dunblane. They have, I understand, proved highly serviceable in numerous instances; and as, in their nature, they nearly resemble Cheltenham waters, they have been very much resorted to. But it is impossible, in the present situation of the place, and the state of the wells, that they can be generally useful, or that invalids frequenting them can reap all the benefit that might be expected if they had better accommodation.

These wells are upon the property of the Earl of Kinnoul, about two miles north from Dunblane, upon the skirts of extensive and bleak moors. There are two springs, on one of which has been erected a wooden shed, which might be mistaken for a place for retiring to from the effects of the water. In the inside of this temple is hung up a scroll, or writing, purporting to be the terms on which the proprietor allows the public the use of the wells. *1st*, Visitors are to pay his tenants for the water at the rate of one penny per pint. *2d*, The poor are to have it for nothing, on bringing a certificate of their poverty from the parish minister. *3d*, No person is to spit, or commit any nuisance in the place. *4th*, If strangers are found using any other than the public roads about the wells, they are to pay damages.—In this country a public road seems to be either a narrow way like a sheep's path for foot passengers, so slippery, that it is impossible to walk easily on it, or a broader one for carriages, consisting of a middle path, in which the horse goes plunging to the belly, and dragging a cart after him, each wheel of it sunk in a deep rut to the axle; between the horse track and that of the wheels, there is usually a small plat of green sward, on which a passenger may pick his way if he has a sharp eye and a steady foot. On these roads an invalid, provided with a pair of mud boots and an umbrella, may take his pleasure; but, if he should trespass, I do not see how it is possible to ascertain the damage he has done, where there are no fences, and little to tread upon but broom and heather.

At the other spring is the chief erection; a kind of lodging house, consisting of three small rooms and a cellar, or kitchen, or pump-room, into a corner of which the water from

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describes the Suiones *(Scandinavians)* as more civilized than the Germans. Their political institutions were better, and they respected riches. Dr Gibson, who also contends for the German origin of the Scots, in his revision of Camden's Britannia, (T. ii. p. 887,) allows that the Picts from the beginning excelled the Highlanders in agriculture, and the arts of civilized life. They who betook themselves to the cultivation of the earth, and a more polished mode of life, took possession of the low lands lying along the sea-coast, and were from time immemorial called *Picts*, *Meatæ*, *Vecturiones*, or *Pechts*. By some Roman writers they are called *Caledonians*, while the Highlanders are called *Dicaledones*, or, as some will have it, *Duncaledones*; while others comprehend both under the denomination of *Caledonians*. Probably the Meatæ were not properly of Pictish extraction, but might be indebted to the neighbourhood and government of the Romans for those arts and habitudes in which they excelled the Highlanders.

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the spring is conveyed by means of a lead pipe. This place, which might cost L. 150, is let to a tenant for L. 45 a-year, with the exclusive privilege of selling the water; and, as he cannot pay his rent in this way, he must fall upon other shifts to satisfy his landlord. This house stands in a bog where you cannot stir abroad (as there is no road to it) without wetting your feet, so that a person in a delicate state of health runs a risk of receiving as much injury from the dampness and wetness of the place, as benefit from the use of the water. In these circumstances, visitors usually reside at Dunblane, but the distance and bad roads render even this extremely inconvenient. I was informed that some public-spirited gentlemen offered to build a number of neat cottages round the wells for the accommodation of strangers; but the noble proprietor declined listening to the proposal. Whether he has any views of improving the place himself, or what these may be, I have not learned; but it would seem highly worthy of his attention, and of that of every benevolent person in the neighbourhood, that the public may be allowed to reap all the benefit of the blessings which Heaven has put into his Lordship's hands for alleviating the sufferings of humanity. Nor does this seem in any way inconsistent with his Lordship's interest; and his tenants in that quarter would receive advantage from an increase of visitors to the wells, which would undoubtedly be the case if they were put on a better footing.—I am, &c.

4th Sept. 1817. W. J.

BALFOUR OF BURLEY.

The name of this remarkable person, who bore so conspicuous a part in the unhappy scenes of bigotry and tyranny which Scotland displayed towards the close of the reign of Charles II., must be familiar to every class of readers, since the appearance of the "Tales of my Landlord." By the mysterious author of that work, and the discussions to which it has given rise, Burley has been drawn from the comparative obscurity in which he had hitherto remained, known only to the divine and the historian, and held up to the world as a person eminently entitled to respect or reprobation, according to the opposite views which are still taken of the cause in which he was engaged. At present we do not mean to enter into this discussion; but, anxious to gratify the curiosity of our readers, if we should fail in higher objects, we are happy to be able to lay before them some account of this extraordinary character, drawn up from original manuscripts in his own hand-writing, and from accredited works already before the public, to which we shall refer.

John Balfour of Kinloch * was the son of John Balfour, portioner of Kinloch, by his wife Grizzel Hay, daughter of Hay of Paris in Perthshire. He was probably born about the year 1640; and we find him served heir to his grandfather, Robert Balfour, on the 26th February 1663.† His grandfather appears to have had a daughter, Helen, married about the year 1621 to John Williamson, son of John Williamson, portioner of Kinloch; she died before her husband, (whose death took place in the year 1644,) leaving four daughters, of whom Christian, the eldest, disposed of her heritage to John Balfour, her uncle.

This John, the father of Burley, seems to have died before the year 1655, as his son was then boarded with John Hay, who grants a receipt to Robert and Alexander Tamson for fourscore pounds Scots, as payment of the said board, dated at Auchtermuchtie. Hay was Burley's uncle; and it is certain that he afterwards resided with another of his uncles, as the following discharge proves:—

"I, Francis Hay of Strowie, grant me to be compleitlie payed and satisfied by John Balfour, portioner of Kinloch, my nevoy, of the soume of four hundreth merks, for the boarding and entertaining of the s^d John in meat and clothes, horse and man, for the yeires of God 16 thriescoir six, and 16 thriescoir seven, and of all yeires preceiding ye day and dait heirof; as also of the soum of thrie hundereth eightein punds Scotts layed out, payed, and

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* The appellation of *Burley* was used in consequence of his close connection with the Balfours of Burley. About 1560, Sir Michael Balfour of Burley (more properly Burleigh) a gentleman of an ancient and highly respectable family, made a grant of the lands of Kinloch to his "near kinsman," the grandfather of Burley.

† Retours of Fife.

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advanced by me at the earnest desire of the s^d John his friends, for his necessar and lawful affaires, and other publick burdens. As also of all compts, reckonings, charges, claims, as well named as not named, ever since my intromission with the goods and gear of umq^l Grissell Hay, my sister, and mother to the said John, for whatsumever cause or causes known, or that sall heirafter happin to be knowen, dispensand with the generalitie hereof, as if everie particular were herein expreat, &c. In witness w^rof, thir presents, written be John Moncrief of Tippermaloch, are subscribed with my hand, at Auchtermuchtie, this twentie-third day of Januar, 16 thriescoir aught yieres, befor thir witnesses, George Moncrief of Redie, George Duncan, portioner of Auchtermuchtie, and the said John Moncrief younger." *

Balfour seems to have joined pretty early with the party which showed resistance to Episcopacy; for he is

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* Among Burley's papers there is an account given in about this time, by a merchant at Perth, which is curious, as exhibiting the prices of various articles. Among other things we find a muff mentioned, a piece of male dress, which, however common at that time, is not now consonant with our ideas of the character so ably delineated in the Tales of my Landlord. This delicate article of attire, however, may possibly have been the property of his wife.

Compt, John Balfour, portioner of Kinlough,
To Jo^n Glas, mer^t in Perth.

1668.	Impr. A French hat delyvred to John Gillies -	L.05	00	00
7 Dec.	It. 2 pund 2 vnce of sugare at 13s. 4d. pund	01	08	4
22 Dec.	It. hnlf pund pepper and a box carvie -	01	03	4
	It. 2 ells ½ of great loopen for his muff	01	04	00
1669. 5 May	It. 4 doz. fyne moy hair mand butons -	01	00	00
	It. 5 drop silk, 7s. 6d. and 1 ell ½ loopen, 4s.	00	11	6
21 May	It. 2 pund 4 vnce and half of sugare -	01	10	0
	It. 4 pund curans, 8s. and a p^d curans, 9s.	00	17	0
	It. 3 ells incarnit rubans, 12s. and 2 vnc ginger, 16d. -	00	13	4
	It. 1 vnc cloves 12s. and 2 drop of meas, 2s.	00	14	0
	It. 1 vnc cannall, 12s. and a chopen wenegare, 4s. -	00	16	0
	Sūma	L. 14	17	6

We are tempted to add another bill from the same quarter.

Compt, John Balfoure, po^r of Kinloch,
To John Glas, mer^t in Perth.

		lib.	s.	d.
	Imp. rests be him conforme to the particular accompt delyvered to him 21 May 1669	14	17	6
	It. a p^r of bairnes shoes			
1669.	to him, at -	00	6	0
17 Sep^r	It. dely^t conforme to his l^re 2 ells and ane half of fyn black seange at 3 lib. ell, is	07	10	0
1670. 3 Ja^ry	It. dely^t to James ffarmer, conforme to his l^re a q^ter and ane half of fyn Lond. cloath, at 10 lb. ye ell, is	03	15	0
	It. 3 q^ters of seange	01	7	0
	It. 1 doz. of small buttones -	00	3	0
	It. 6 q^ters of loupen	00	4	6
	It. a p^d of anet seid	00	10	0
	It. a q^r of paper	00	6	0
	It. a p^d and a half of small row tobacco -	00	18	0
	It. a black longtailed buttone -	00	8	0
	It. 2 drop of black silk	00	3	0
	It. 1 p^d 12 vnce of sugar, at 13s. 4d. per p^d, is	01	3	4
	It. 4 ells of gray wallens, 12s. and 2 drop gray silk, 3s. is	00	15	0
	It. 1 vnce and a half of reid walx -	00	9	0
1670. 17 No^r	It. dely^t to Andrew M^cgull, conforme to his l^re, 6 doz. of silk mandle buttones at 4s pr doz. is	01	4	0
	It. 4 doz. of breists	00	12	0
	It. 19 drop of silk	01	8	6
	It. 3½ ells of silk wallens	00	10	6
	It. 1 ell of loupen	00	2	0
	It. 18 ells of clou collored ribbanes -	03	12	0
	It. a qr of paper 6s. and for red walx 4s. Inde	00	10	0
	It. half ane p^d of pepper	00	9	0
	Sūma is	L. 41	3	4

It may be observed, that in the year 1677, Balfour was put to the horn by this John Glass for non-payment of the sum of L. 47, 3s. 4d. specified in a bond granted by him to Glass in the year 1672.

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asserted, in the appendix to the Life of Archbishop Sharp, to have deserted the church, and followed after field conventicles long previous to the Bishop's murder, "glorying," according to the writer, "to be reputed one of the most furious zealots, and stoutest champions* of the phanatick party in Fife; for which he was denounced, and intercommuned." In the year 1677, he was attacked by a party sent out to apprehend him, in his own house, the details of which affray are thus given by the Reverend Mr James Kirkton in his History of the Church of Scotland. "Another accident, at this time, helped to inflame the displeasure of our governours, and that was this: Captain Carstaires was at that time very bussie in the east end of Fyffe; the Lady Colvill he chased out of her own house, and by constraining her to lie upon the mountains, broke the poor ladie's health; William Sherthumb he laid in prison, but the doores were opened, and he set free. But the poor people of that country who were conventiclers, knew not what to doe; so some dozen of them mett at Kinloch, the house of John Balfour, a bold man, who was himself present, and with him Alexander Hamilton of Kincaill, a most irreconcileable enemy to the bishops, also Robert Hamilton, younger son to Sir Robert Hamilton of Preston, a man who had very lately changed his character, and of a loose youth became a high strained zealot; but a man he was who made a great deal more noise than ever he did business, and some countreymen more. Of these Carstaires gets intelligence, and so comes upon them very boldly with his party of some eight or nine horses, among whom Philip Garret, a desperate English tinker, was chief. Garret alights, and perceiving a man standing in the door of the house, fires upon him, but misses him; upon which one out of the chamber fires upon Garret, being at that time in the court of the house; the shot pierced Garret's shoulder, and made him fall. Carstaires fired in at another door, and pierced the leg of a man in the house; but upon this, all within horsed, and chased Carstaires and his party, though no more blood was shed, only Kincaill's horse was shott, and Garrett received some more blows with a sword, but his life was spared. This action, upon Carstaires's information, was reckoned resistance and rebellion. All present, because they appeared not when called, were denunced rebells, and some who were not present, were denunced with the rest, as it was very frequently done; but this was charged upon the whole party."*

It may be remarked, that Kirkton mistakes one Garret for the infamous English tinker Scarlet, who, after riding as one of Mr John Welch's body guard, was suspected to have been concerned in the barbarous murder of two soldiers at Newmills;† and that the Tory account of this fracas states Balfour to have removed his wife and children out of the house, expecting the attack, for which he was well prepared both with fire-arms and men.

The next traces we find of him are in desperate consultations with his accomplices respecting the castigation of one Bailie Carmichael,‡ who was brought over by Sharp from Edinburgh, and made Sheriff-depute of Fife under Rothes, for the purpose of enforcing the grievous penalties enacted against the Presbyterians. The barbarous murder of the Archbishop, which occurred soon afterwards, has been so fully and frequently described and expatiated upon, that it is unnecessary to rehearse again the particulars of that transaction.

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* It may perhaps be suspected, from the following account, that Burley's prowess had been tried in scenes of strife some years before his more public appearances.

Accompt for John Balfour, portioner of Kinloch, Januar 9, 1674.

It. ane cordiall julep w^th^ -	L.03	10	00
It. to yourself ane glister	01	10	00
It. to your self the lyk glister	01	10	00
It. the cordial julep as before	03	10	00
It. ane water for your eye	00	06	00
It. for *plasters and oyels to your head* - -	03	06	00
It. for my oune panes going out seuerall tymes; and my servand's attendance -	20	00	00
Sūma is	L.33	12	00

* Kirkton's *History of the Church of Scotland*, edited by C. Kirkpatrick Sharpe, Esq. pp. 380 and 381.

† See Russell's account of Sharp's murder, p. 454.

‡ See Russell.

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Burley is well known to have been one of the chief agents in the assassination.

After the murder, Burley and his friends rambled about for a few days, avoiding observation, and then joined the insurgents at Drumclog.* There he behaved with great bravery, and is made the hero of a ballad descriptive of that skirmish, to be found in the Border Minstrelsy. On disarming one of the Duke of Hamilton's servants, who had been in the action, he desired the man, as it is said, to tell his master he would retain, till meeting, the pistols which he had taken from him. "Afterwards, when the Duke asked his man what he was like? he told him he was a little man, squint-eyed, and of a very fierce aspect; the Duke said, he knew who it was, and withal prayed that he might never see his face, for if he should, he was sure he would not live long." † At the affair of Bothwell Bridge, Burley displayed his wonted courage; and received a wound, which occasioned him to exclaim, "The devil cut off his hands that gave it." ‡ His conduct prior and subsequent to that fatal conflict, is partly narrated in a letter subjoined, addressed to James Ure of Shirgartoun, whose sufferings in the cause of presbytery are recorded by Wodrow. § Burley's letter, now first published from the original MS. bears no direction, but a passage respecting the affair of "Humiliation," so much debated by the insurgents, compared with one in Russell, ‖ ascertains to whom it was written. The reader will find in Russell many circumstances respecting Burley's motions after the rout at Bothwell Bridge, which concluded in a flight to Holland, where he was not very cordially entreated by his fellow refugees, being debarred from the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. He appears to have resided chiefly with his uncle, John Hay, who became an eminent bookseller in Holland. When the Prince of Orange undertook his descent, Burley received a commission as a cavalry officer, but died on the passage. His property had been confiscated, and given to Lord Lindores. After the Revolution, the act of attainder was reversed. David Balfour, the son, was then served heir to his father, and commenced a prosecution against Lord Lindores for his intromissions with the estate. *

In 1694 David married the daughter of ——— Russell, Esq. of Kettle, by which marriage he obtained the estates of Bankton and Kettle. He was succeeded by his eldest son, William, who died without issue about 1736, and left the estates to his brother Henry. Barbara Balfour,† the daughter of Henry, was married to the father of the present Colonel J. Balfour Wemyss of Wemyss Hall, in the county of Fife. ‡

His character, as given by his biographer in the Scots Worthies, is, "That although he was by some reckoned none of the most religious, yet he was always zealous and honest-hearted, courageous in every enterprise, and a brave soldier, *seldom any escaping that came into his hands.*"

The following description of his person is given in the trial of Hackstoun of Rathillet, whose sister Barbara he

* Russel. † Scots Worthies, p. 552. Wodrow. § Vol. II. p. 260. ‖ P. 461.

* Notwithstanding the appellation of *portioner*, the estate of this distinguished person appears to have corresponded with the rank and antiquity of his family. From an original tack between Lord Lindores and Patrick and Alexander Thomsons, dated 19th October 1685, it appears that the rent of four-eighteen parts of Kinloch was 4 chalders and 13 bolls of bear and oats, 4 dozen of hens, and L. 100 Scots in money. What proportion this bore to Burley's estate we have not the means of ascertaining, but lands possessed by other tenants are mentioned in the same lease. The cess paid for the whole of John Balfour's part of Kinloch, from May 1656 to May 1657, according to receipts signed by the collector, David Walker, amounted to L. 56, 1s. 4d. Scots.

† This lady is still alive, and in perfect health. Colonel Wemyss's father succeeded, in right of his wife, to the estates of Kinloch, Bankton, and King's Kettle. The former he sold to the family of the present possessor, Andrew Thomson, Esq.

‡ To this highly respectable gentleman, now the lineal representative of Balfour of Burley, we are happy to own ourselves indebted for the papers here laid before the public, as well as for the principal facts above stated, which he has communicated with a liberality that demands our warmest acknowledgments. Colonel Wemyss, in his communication to us, says with a genuine Scottish spirit, "I am too proud of my great progenitor to refuse my name to his life, or my hand to his defence."

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had married, and who commanded the party which assassinated the Archbishop, but retired to a little distance, and declined to take any share in it. "John Balfour of Kinloch, who is a laigh broad man, round, ruddie faced, dark-brown hair, and hade ane brown stoned horse, armed with hulster pistols, and a shabble." *

LETTER FROM BALFOUR OF BURLEY TO JAMES URE OF SHIRGARTOUN.†

SIR, *March* 30, 168 - -

THER cam to my hands a short (and, as its termed, a trew) relation of y^t sad and deplorabel busines, y^t fell out the other year; which relation I judg, on good grounds, to be yours, tho y^t, in wisdom, ye conciled your neam; and I most say, (pardon me in this, sir,) y^t, if ye had forboren soom expressions of your own actings, which canot but mak you knowen to al y^t wer in y^t armay, ye had don mor wisly than by screwing them up to such as ye hav don, which renders them suspitius of falshood to all who reids your information. But pardon me, sir, to leav this, and com a litel to the other particulars. Ye tel us y^t ye cam on the Saboth, with soom wel armed men; it is treuth they wer so; and if y^t they had not ben so fre in shoting ther wolays nedlesly, I think y^t thay had considerabel provision of puder also. Yeat, if I be not deceaved, I gav them several piks at Glasko, or at least they got of thos piks y^t I took at Glasko. As to what past y^t night betwixt Mr Hamilton and you, I know nothing of it. As to what Mr Duglas had in his sermon, I cannot tel what it was; but I judg y^t it hath ben soom reflections on that dreadful supreamasie, which I tak to be his dutay, and al fa'ful ministers duty, to preach against, yea, tho y^t it should ofend such loiel persons as you. As to y^t council of war on the moore, y^t did condem the man, and to his sentenc, and the grond therof, I remember y^t it was proven y^t he was sen strik at y^t man with a fork, and the person y^t he kiled was wounded by a fork, so y^t he was condemed by a weray considerable numer of oficers, whereof ye was on y^t woted him guiltay, tho y^t its lik, after y^t he saw soom ministers were for sending him to the civel magistrat, y^t he might be punished as a *———, ye was in their judgment; tho y^t to me it semeth both ye and they wer out of your deuty, ye in retracting, and they in desairing us to oun thos usurpers, for usurper they ar, be what they wil, y^t carays, I should have said pretens to bear ruel in Scotland this day. Yea ther is non of them, from the greatest to the mienest, y^t hath anay right to ruel, for al are perjured and mensworn blooday wretchis; so it is to me weray streang y^t anay sober cristian should own such as judges, y^t both by the law of god, and laws of the nation, ar guyltay of death themselvs. But, fearing to griv your low spirit, I pass y^t, and come to what is nixt, which was soom debeats anent a decleration, and its form. I remember y^t it was desaird that y^t y^t god moking draught y^t was produced should be altered in thrie or four things, first, y^t the third artical of the covenant (y^t was insert in it to the ful, tho both against law and reason, we being no mor bond to him y^t hath by act of parliament rechinded the weray ground whereon he receaved the crown) should be taken away altogether out of it, or at least y^t the forth might be insert to balenc it, which

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* A crooked sword or hanger.—Howell's *State Trials*, X. 839.

† "The sufferings of the family of James Ure of Shargartoun were likewise very considerable during this period. His house was frequently pillaged by parties of soldiers. When he was forfeited after Bothwell, where he behaved with courage, his rents and moveables were all seized, and many times parties were in search for him, but he happily escaped. His mother, a gentlewoman about 70 years of age, was put in prison at Glasgow, where she died, notwithstanding all the interest that was made for her. Meanwhile a hundred pound Scots was offered to any who should apprehend Shargartoun, dead or alive; but he escaped to Ireland, where he continued half a year. Then he ventured home; but was obliged to conceal himself in the fields; so that, during the winter 1684, he lay in the wood of Balquhan for several weeks. His lady was apprehended for conversing with her own husband, and carried prisoner to Stirling, with a sucking child at her breast, and from thence to Edinburgh, and put into the Canongate jail. At last the managers thought fit to release her. Shargartoun survived his troubles, and lived to the unnatural Rebellion 1715, when he saw vengeance overtake some of his persecutors."—Crookshanks's *History of the Church of Scotland*, Vol. II.

* *Vide* Russell's Narrative of Archbishop Sharp's Murder, p. 457.

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was against reason denaid, tho y^t if the third had been taken away, and the forth insert, it had been mor beseeming to such a pertay. The second was y^t ther might be a posativ clause insert in it, declaring against the indulgenc, which was also refused, becaus y^t ther was a general included in it against supremacy, which was a mer desain to blind the peopel and a moking of God. The third was, y^t the causes of wreath, aknoledgment of sin, and ingadgment to deutays might be insert also, which with difficultay was obtained to be insert in the clos of it. What was furder don in it I know not, but I was informed y^t thos y^t wer for it did desair y^t it might be read only, and after reading, it should be mended to satisfaction or it were printed; on which terms it semeth y^t it was condeshended on to be read, on condition y^t Mr King and Mr Douglas should red it, which was granted, tho basely broken, as was the former, and it was read and commented on by Mr Hum to the dissatisfaction of manay; and after, contrair to ingadgment (as ye hav said), printed without our knowledg. But I shall not stay on al breaches y^t fel out, but - - - - - to y^t councel of war y^t was at the Shaw-head Moore on the Wednesday - - - - I most not forget by the by, y^t on the Sabath, on of our ministers was - - - - ed of the pleac when going to preach by Mr Hum, who y^t day had no - - - - from the armay to preach himself, tho he intruded himself, but now - - - - the councel, it was ther voted by all, sav your self and Mr Carmihael, (I mean James,*) y^t ther should be a day of humiliation condeshended, and - - - - ther wer four ministers and four elders chosen out to draw up the cases of the fast; and I am sure y^t this was don without a contradicting wot, sav two only. Learmon desaird it might be delayd - - - - Mr Welsh cam, who indeed cam and brok up al weray shortly; so y^t we pearted from the councel soom of us with tears in our eis; and I wish y^t we had pearted from you that day, it had been beter for us this day then it is, and mor for the gloray of God I am sur. But I heast to the other council of war y^t was on Saturday, wher the Galuway gentlemen wer; I remember y^t it was liker a babel then a serious counsel, for al the gentlemen, whether officers or not, behoved to be ther, and wot forsuth, and the first thing was don was y^t the Galaway men desaired a preses to be chosen; to which it was ansered, y^t Mr Hamilton had always preceded, with ful consent of the officers of the armay; then it was demanded who wer officers? to which it was ansered, y^t we y^t wer with them wer, and y^t we wer chosen *pro tempore*, and had officiat til now, but wer wiling to give pleac to any y^t deserved it beter, so y^t they wold steat the lords quaral aright; and I remember y^t I said (the Lord knows I spok treuth) y^t I was satisfied to hav served as a laqay man under anay y^t they should apoint over me, so that he or they wold steat the Lords quaral aright; but al the anser we got to y^t was a few brawling words and soom of self comendation from soom men that might hav held ther peac. The nixt thing was the galoway gentlemen desaired that ther ministers might be brought in, to which we ansered y^t our wer not al ther at y^t teim, y^t they might be cald with thers, and y^t it was not expedient y^t ministers sat in a council of war, but when necessarly cald therto, neither had they been with us formerlay but when cald; but tho y^t it was also said by us, y^t if ministers wer cald, it was fit y^t elders was cald also, yaet Mr Hume, and others with him, rushed in uncald, and asked wher wer ther elders, they knew few or non; tho y^t it was ansered y^t ther wer manay godly elders both of officers and souldiers in the armay, yeat they wer not permitted to be cald, least I think they should hav mised ther desing of owerpowering us by wots if they had ben cald. The first thing treated on after the ministers cam in, was a petitioning the duke, and a debeating for ye old busines. When y^t we saw y^t ther was nothing like to be settled on y^t was becoming such an armay, we ros and went out, to the number of eghtein or neinten officers; tho ye be pleased to term y^t numer weray few, yeat ther wer mor y^t went out then I have said; and my brother told y^t he durst not wenter his blod in batel with such as thos wer y^t stayd behind, seing y^t they did so steat the quarel as y^t the Lord was robed by the steating of it. What ye did after we went out I know not, but we wer cald in again, and

* Son to the Earl of Wigton's chamberlain.—Proclamation against Rebels, June 26, 1679.

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being com back, we told y^t we wer in y^t same judgment we were in when we went away. Then your new preces, for it semeth ye had chosen on, prest a petitioning of the duk, and we having refused and desaird (soom at least desaired) to know to what purpos, for it was not in his pour to grant us anay thing, (as hath appeared to be treuth sinc) yeat Mr Hum said y^t he knew y^t he had pour to do, and that he waited for our petition; and treuly I dout not but Mr Hum's information was good as to the last, for he, no question, tampered with his bretheren who tampered with the Duck, the indulged bretheren I men. In end (for I heast), it was agraied on y^t y^t petition should be read, which was such an on as might hav scared any cristian from offering to present it, for it was al stufed with Malignant Loieltay; and we having refused it altogether, at lenth ther was a motion mead of sending on information of our grivences; for drawing of which ther was four gentelmen, tuo on each seid, and four ministers chosen for drawing up of it, which after y^t they had agreid on a drawght, it was ordered to be drawen up, (how honestly it was don I know not, but it semeth y^t it was don so with as others things wer don with formerly.) So we peartid, and was sent to Dunserf with my troup to guard y^t pas, wher I stayed al night, til I was cald for the next morning and sent to the foord y^t is on the east seid of Hamilton, with Bankhead, who told me y^t Mr Hume was gon to the Duk, which indeed wexed me much; so y^t, Sir, I canot giv anay account of your behaviour at the bridg in the morning. I hav sen under your oun hand, which semeth inded to be favorabel enouch to yow, and as unfavorabel of others, as I hear by soom y^t was ther; but I pas it and come again to my oun peart, (which truely, Sir, I had forborn to speak if ye had not necessitat me to do so,) for I was cald to the mur, and when I cam I had orders to pleac my troop four pear of buts behind the second bragad on the left hand, wher they stayed; and I cam doun twis thriec to the boday, but found few of oficers espesialy of thos of Galoway, with ther troups; but, as on of them told sinc, they wer busied about the sending a second petition, so y^t they had not leasur to be with ther troups. So, sir, I find you in a mistak when ye say y^t I was on the front with my troop; I was indead threic doun befor the enime, wiewing them, and ready to excheng a pistol with anay of them, if they had anay com out to me; and I spok with Greinrig, who told me he was to while with his troup, and tho I did what was in me to disuad him, yeat while he did with that forward gentelman ye spok of Mr Carmihel, who at y^t teim was mor forthward to flei, than stout to fight, so y^t thos two wer they y^t brok the foot y^t wer behind them, and consequently the whol armay. For my peart, sir, I shall not say any thing as to my ceariag, but this I am sure of, y^t I stayd in the fild til ye and a thousand mor wer making mor us of your spurs then your swords; and in token of it sir, I brought the marks of my staying, with which you wer not at leasur at y^t teim to wait on, unles y^t ye had acedentalay met with the first canon bal, which I am glead ye prevented by your teimus retreat. As for y^t forward gentel man, I am sur if the canon had either hit him or his comerad captain Weir, it behowed to hav overtaken them, for they wer both fled or the canon shot; but the other captain y^t ye say was with yow in the morning, was not so wise as ye, for he ether had not a hors, or forgot to tak him, which ye did weray teimusly. Thus, sir, I hav showen you a few treuths, and I shal clos with y^t sam ye clos with, to wit, I shal frelay giv you liv to cal me a lier if ther be ought in this account but trueth; and I am hopful y^t tho soom may tak the freedom to do it behind my bak, yeat they wil not neither say it to my feac, nor giv it under unles they resolv to run the risk of being proven a lier, which, sir, wil easelay be don, but I pas it, and leavs manay thousands of frinds, and soom enemeis, to bear witnis of the trueth of my cairag y^t day, and of your servant, whom ye know —— ——

ACCOUNT OF THE RECENT IMPROVEMENT MADE IN BLOCK-PRINTING.

MR EDITOR,

The improvement lately made by Mr Savage of London, in this branch of art, is so remarkable, and gives it a character so completely novel, that a short view of it will, I hope, be interesting to your readers. I shall premise a brief account of its invention and progress to the present time.

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Engraving on wood is in all probability of a much earlier origin than either printing or copperplate engraving. According to Heinekin, it was first practised by the makers of playing cards, and subsequently applied to the purpose of representing figures of Saints, or subjects taken from Scripture history, which, at that early period, were in request among the pious who could not read. The cards seem to have consisted of only an outline printed from the wood, the proper colours being afterwards filled in by the hand. The figures of the saints, &c. of which the Poor Man's Bible is one of the most celebrated examples, were executed in a style little superior to the knave and the other figures on the modern cards, having a few lines of hatching, and commonly a verse of poetry illustrative of the subject also cut in the block. In these we find the origin of letter-press printing.

The historical compositions of Albert Durer and Lucas van Leyden form a new era in the art, and to the present time, their bold drawing, truth of expression, and painter-like feeling of their subject, stand unrivalled. The greater delicacy and smoothness of the works of modern artists in this department cannot be denied, but they must yield to Albert Durer in variety, richness, and freedom of touch. But however excellent were the works of those artists, they only consisted of imitations of hatched drawings in Indian ink, without any attempt at the representation of colouring. Engraving in chiaro was probably invented by Mair about 1490. His works consist of two distinct tints of shadow thrown off by two separate blocks, with the outline etched on copper; these were executed with great neatness and delicacy. Soon after, the early Italian artists, Ugo da Carpi, Andrea Andreani, &c. executed many works which possess great boldness of effect, but without the neatness and delicacy so remarkable in the works of Mair. They consist generally of the outline, and of three separate tints of shadow, each printed by a separate block of wood, shaped or engraved of the form required. Although this method has been occasionally practised, down to the present period, by Zanetti, Jackson, Pond, and others, it received no improvement till the discoveries of Mr Savage have shown the very extensive uses to which it may be applied. By increasing the number of blocks, he has been able to give representations, in colours, of the works of some of the best artists in London, in a manner so exquisitely beautiful and accurate, as to defy ordinary observation to discover the copy from the original. The exact similarity of one impression with another, is also a circumstance of the greatest consequence; for, by the ordinary methods of printing in colours from copperplates, the difficulty (it might be said impossibility) to attain this uniformity is well known.

The description of the process adopted by Mr Savage is very simple. Upon a piece of smooth boxwood, the first tint is sketched out. That part of the wood which is not marked with the tint, is then cut away with the common instruments used by engravers on wood; when that is done, only the part of the wood from which the tint is to be taken remains. A proof is then thrown off by a printing-press,* and if the subject be a landscape, the first tint will be a light grey. The second tint is then drawn, and is carefully transferred to another block of wood, and the part of the wood not marked cut away as formerly. An impression from this block is made upon the same paper which had received the first tint. Two tints of the landscape are thus produced, and the remaining tints are supplied in the same manner successively by separate blocks, till the complete effect is obtained. Several excellent specimens of landscapes by Mr Savage, in colours, sepia, and Indian ink, are in the possession of Mr John Ruthven of this place, a gentleman well known for his new and improved printing-press. These afford examples of what may be expected from Mr Savage's publication of landscapes from the pictures of the best artists in London, which is now, I believe, nearly ready, and cannot fail to be a very interesting work.

The advantages resulting from this method of copying pictures or drawings must, upon a little consideration,

* We understand that no press is so well adapted for this purpose as that lately invented by Mr John Ruthven of this place, and which is the one used by Mr Savage.

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be obvious to every one. The certainty with which it is done, the durability of the colours, (being mixed up with oil,) and the moderate expence compared with that incurred in any other means of colouring hitherto discovered, are among the most remarkable. When we consider the inadequacy of language to convey almost any idea of colours, more particularly of those employed in pictures, the value of this discovery must be duly appreciated. It is in vain to treat of the subject of colouring without the aid of examples to refer to; and artists who have it not in their power to examine the paintings of the great masters, feel the want of a work of the kind. It has also been adopted, with complete success, in works on Botany, Natural History, &c.

I shall conclude these observations, with expressing a hope that Mr Savage, as soon as his leisure permits, will give to the world a set of engravings from the works of the best colourists amongst the ancient masters, ample materials for which are to be found in London. The engravers on wood, of the present day, possess abilities capable of accomplishing the work in a style of excellence which would be completely satisfactory. L.

Edinburgh, 4th Sept. 1817.

SINGULAR CASE OF INVOLUNTARY DANCING.

MR EDITOR,

In the seventh volume of the Transactions of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, there is a communication by Mr Kinder Wood, Surgeon, respecting a malady of so peculiar a nature, that a short abstract of its symptoms may be as interesting to the common as to the medical reader. It is considered as a very peculiar form of the malady called *Chorea Sancti Viti*, or St Vitus's Dance. It appears to me that it may more properly be considered as a form of *Tarantism*, or of that peculiar disease supposed to be produced by the bite of the Tarantula. To the same class probably belongs the louping (leaping) disease, to which the inhabitants of the county of Forfar are liable. The phenomena of that malady are very curious, and would deserve more elucidation than they have yet obtained from medical observers.

Alice Whitworth, a married woman, aged 22, residing near Oldham, on the 21st February 1815, consulted Mr Wood, on a case of severe pains shooting through the right side of her head. She was relieved by an opiate liniment; but on the 24th was affected by a violent agitation of the muscles, which was succeeded by involuntary motions of the right leg and arm, accompanied by beating with her feet. These movements continued for three hours, after which she became easier, and passed a quiet night. On the 25th, the affection returned, and continued through the day for two hours at a time, with intervals of an hour. On the 26th, the symptoms became more violent; she flew into every corner of the room, striking violently with her hand the furniture and doors, the sound of which appeared to afford her great satisfaction. On the 27th, the violence of the symptoms still increased, and we shall now describe them in Mr Wood's own words.

"She now struck the furniture more violently and more repeatedly. Kneeling on one knee, with the hands upon the back, she often sprung up suddenly and struck the top of the room with the palm of the hand. To do this, she rose fifteen inches from the floor, so that the family were under the necessity of drawing all the nails and hooks from the ceiling. She frequently danced upon one leg, holding the other with the hand, and occasionally changing the legs. In the evening, the family observed the blows upon the furniture to be more continuous, and to assume the regular time and measure of a musical air. As a strain or series of strokes was concluded, she ended with a more violent stroke or a more violent spring or jump. Several of her friends also at this time noticed the regular measure of the strokes, and the greater regularity the disease was assuming; the motions being evidently affected, or in some measure modified, by the strokes upon the surrounding bodies. She chiefly struck a small slender door; the top of a chest of drawers; the clock; a table; or a wooden skreen placed near the door. The affection ceased about nine o'clock, when the patient went to bed.

"February 28. She arose very well at eight. At half-past nine the motions recommenced; they were

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now of a more pleasant nature; the involuntary actions, instead of possessing their former irregularity and violence, being changed into a measured step over the room, connected with an air, or series of strokes; and she beat upon the adjacent bodies as she passed them. In the commencement of the attack, the lips moved as if words were articulated, but no sound could be distinguished at this period. It was curious, indeed, to observe the patient at this time, moving around the room with all the vivacity of the country dance, or the graver step of the minuet; the arms frequently carried, not merely with ease, but with elegance. Occasionally, all the steps were so directed, as to place the foot constantly where the stone flags joined to form the floor, particularly when she looked downwards. When she looked upwards, there was an irresistible impulse to spring up to touch little spots or holes in the top of the ceiling; when she looked around, she had a similar propensity to dart the forefinger into little holes in the furniture, &c. One hole in the wooden skreen received the point of the forefinger many hundred times, which was suddenly and involuntarily darted into it with an amazing rapidity and precision. There was one particular part of the wall to which she frequently danced, and there placing herself with the back to it, stood two or three minutes. This by the family was called '*the measuring place.*'

"In the afternoon the motions returned, and proceeded much as in the morning. At this time a person present, surprised with the manner in which she beat upon the doors, &c. and thinking he recognised the air, without further ceremony began to sing the tune; the moment this struck her ears, she turned suddenly to the man, and dancing directly up to him, continued doing so till he was out of breath. The man now ceased a short time, when, commencing again, he continued till the attack stopped. The night before this, her father had mentioned his wish to procure a drum, associating this dance of his daughter with some ideas of music. The avidity with which she danced to the tune when sung as above stated, confirmed this wish, and accordingly a drum and fife were procured in the evening. After two hours of rest, the motions again reappeared, when the drum and fife began to play the air, to which she had danced before, viz. the 'Protestant Boys,' a favourite popular air in this neighbourhood. In whatever part of the room she happened to be, she immediately turned and danced up to the drum, and as close as possible to it, and there she danced till she missed the step, when the involuntary motions instantly ceased. The first time, she missed the step in five minutes; but again rose, and danced to the drum two minutes and a half by her father's watch, when, missing the step, the motions instantly ceased. She rose a third time, and missing the step in half a minute, the motions instantly ceased. After this, the drum and fife commenced as the involuntary actions were coming on, and before she rose from her seat; and four times they completely checked the progress of the attack, so that she did not rise upon the floor to dance. At this period, the affection ceased for the evening.

"March 1. She arose very well at half-past seven. Upon my visit this morning, the circumstances of the preceding afternoon being stated, it appeared clear to me that the attacks had been shortened.

"As I wished to see the effect of the instrument over the disease, I was sent for at noon, when I found her dancing to the drum, which she continued to do for half an hour without missing the step, owing to the slowness of the movement. As I sat counting the pulse, which I found to be 120, in the short interval of an attack, I noticed motions of the lips, previous to the commencement of the dance, and, placing my ear near the mouth, I distinguished a tune. After the attack, of which this was the beginning, she informed me, in answer to my inquiry, that there always was a tune dwelling upon her mind, which at times becoming more pressing, irresistibly impelled her to commence the involuntary motions. The motion ceased at four o'clock.

"At half-past seven the motions commenced again, when I was sent for. There were two drummers present, and an unbraced drum was beaten till the other was braced. She danced regularly to the unbraced drum, but the moment the other commenced she instantly ceased. As missing the time stopped the affections, I wished

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the measure to be changed during the dance, which stopped the attack. It also ceased upon increasing the rapidity of the beat, till she could no longer keep time; and it was truly surprising to see the rapidity and violence of the muscular exertion, in order to keep time with the increasing movement of the instrument. Five times I saw her sit down the same evening, at the instant that she was unable to keep the measure; and in consequence of this, I desired the drummers to beat one continued roll, instead of a regular movement. She arose and danced five minutes, when both drums beat a continued roll; the motons instantly stopped, and the patient sat down. In a few minutes the motions commencing again, she was suffered to dance five minutes, when the drums again began to roll, the effect of which was instantaneous; the motions ceased, and the patient sat down. In a few minutes the same was repeated with the same effect. It appeared certain that the attacks could now be stopped in an instant, and I was desirous of arresting them entirely, and breaking the chain of irregular associations which constituted the disease. As the motions at this period always commenced in the fingers, and propagated themselves along the upper extremities to the trunk, I desired the drummers, when the patient arose to dance, to watch the commencement of the attack, and roll the drums before she arose from the chair. Six times successively the patient was hindered from rising, by attending to the commencement of the affection; and before leaving the house, I desired the family to attend to the commencement of the attacks, and use the drum early.

"March 2, She arose at seven o'clock, and the motions commenced at ten; she danced twice before the drummer was prepared, after which she attempted to dance again four several times; but one roll of a well-braced drum hindered the patient from leaving her seat; after which the attacks did not recur. She was left weakly and fatigued by the disease, but with a good appetite. In the evening of this day, an eruption appeared, particularly about the elbows, in diffused patches of a bright red colour, which went off on the third day.

"This woman, previously to her complaint, could never dance, even a country dance; and yet I saw her execute steps which could not be taught without difficulty. At times she would rise upon the toes, and move forward, alternately advancing each heel into the hollow of the opposite foot; at other times, poising the body upon one foot, with the heel raised, she would beat time with the toe and heel of the other.

"In this case there was no wandering of the intellect, either during the paroxysm, or in its absence. The perception and judgment were accurate and just, and all questions were answered correctly. During the intermission, she did many household affairs, nursed her child, &c. &c. although the troublesome curiosity of her numberless visitors undoubtedly disturbed her ease. There was a constant wish to recover, a just knowledge of her situation, and of the advantage she received from the agency of the instrument, with an anxious desire to continue its use.

"This disease appears to have consisted in an highly irritable state of the mind, with which the organs of voluntary motion became associated; and the cure was effected by interrupting this irregular association. It is probable, that the noise of the instrument in a room scarcely six yards square, was very advantageous, by interrupting the chain of musical ideas, impressed upon the highly excited mind, and re-establishing the ordinary relation of the mental operations with external things. The voluntary muscles also early associated themselves with the instrument, as was shown by the instant cessation of their unnatural actions, when the time could no longer be kept."

She continued free from any attack for six weeks, but, in April, began to be affected with agitations in the muscles of the face, particularly the eyes and eyelids. She recovered, however; but in May was repeatedly seized with affections similar to those which occurred in the first attack. They were always removed by the drum, which she at length began to beat herself. After some repetition of attacks, she, on the 2d of August, recovered entirely, and has continued perfectly well ever since. MEDICUS.

Edinburgh, Sept. 2, 1817.

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REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

France. By LADY MORGAN. 2d edit. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1817.

THIS book appears to us to hold a sort of intermediate rank between works of truth and fiction, and to be distinguished by the more common faults of both, without possessing the attractions of either. It is made up, for the most part, of incidents that are quite trivial and uninteresting,—of anecdotes often improbable, sometimes incredible, and which never gratify the expectation which the mention of the names to which they relate is calculated to excite,—of common-place remarks, to which the author attempts in vain to give some interest, by an affected loftiness of language; and hasty generalizations founded on a few insulated facts, viewed through the medium of the most wilful and inexcusable prejudice. The ennui with which we have been oppressed, in the perusal of these volumes, has sometimes, indeed, been relieved by pages of lively narrative, observations more just than original, and interesting notices of a few celebrated characters; but it has far oftener been broken in upon by sentiments of disgust and indignation at the language which this learned lady employs, when speaking of the most important concerns of mankind,—their interests and duties, religious, moral, and political; and, notwithstanding a clumsy apology, at the utter want of nationality, and disregard of truth, which could dictate such sentences as the following. She is speaking of the French peasantry.

"But that long-enduring race have now passed away; their children are proprietors, where they were vassals. The torture no longer exists, to feed a spirit of brutal ferocity by its horrible exhibitions. Bigotry no longer presents them with idle forms for real principles; they have nothing to fear from the '*droit de chasse*,' the '*corvée*,' the '*taille*,' the '*gabellé*.' They have tasted a practical freedom, not less perhaps than that enjoyed by the people of England; they are moral as the people of Scotland; and, notwithstanding the recent ravages, they are more prosperous perhaps than either. Oh! may they long continue so; and in spite of that '*scourge of fire*,' with which an English minister is said lately to have threatened them, may they boldly resent and timely oppose every effort made by domestic oppression or foreign invasion, which may tend to bring them back to that state in which they were declared, by the law of the land, to be, '*un peuple serf, corvéable et taillable, à merci et à miséricorde!*'"

But it will be necessary, in the first place, to notice the contents of this work generally, and then to submit a few more extracts to justify the opinion we have given of it. It is divided into eight books, of which the first has the title of "Peasantry;" the two next that of "Society;" the fourth, fifth, and sixth, treat of "Paris;" the seventh of the "French Theatre;" and the eighth of "Eminent and Literary Characters." To these are subjoined an appendix by Sir Charles Morgan, "On the State of Law,—Finance,—Medicine,—and Political Opinion in France."

After a preface, in which nothing is so remarkable as the author's irritability—and some just remarks on the oppressed state of the peasantry under the old *regime*, we are introduced to one of the most Utopian scenes which the imagination of the novelist has ever attempted to pourtray. By means of the Revolution, the French peasantry have been rendered happy, and independent, and enlightened;—relieved from the oppression of their superiors, and from the terrors of superstition, their minds and manners have become highly refined; their domestic comforts approach to the elegant enjoyments of rank and fortune;—and no other painful emotions disturb their hours of peaceful and contented industry, or of gaiety and repose, save a universal sentiment of aversion to the Bourbons,—of regret for the fall of Napoleon,—of contempt for the established religion, and its ministers, and ceremonies,—with a deep-rooted abhorrence of their conquerors. Yet with all this to recommend the condition of a peasant, this sensitive lady cannot refrain from commiserating the fate of those whom peace has withdrawn from plunder and bloodshed, and restored to

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these Elysian scenes of rural innocence and tranquillity. We have already transcribed a few sentences from this part of the work, which may serve to give the reader some idea of the felicity of this numerous class. But we have our doubts of its continuance, when we are told that many of these *petits proprietaires* have not land enough to find entire occupation for a plough and team; and that the independent lord of an acre is seen "trailing a sort of ploughing machine, resembling a harrow, over his small territory, with one small donkey, the scrub of the farm. Still, however, this man is an independent proprietor," &c. But what will his sons be when this domain shall be equally divided amongst them, as the Code Napoleon requires it to be?

"National idiosyncrasy," says Lady Morgan, at the beginning of the second book, (on SOCIETY,)—

"must always receive its first colouring from the influence of soil and of climate; and the moral characteristics of every people be resolvable into the peculiar constitution of their physical structure. Religion and government, indeed, give a powerful direction to the principles and modes of civilized society, and debase or elevate its inherent qualities, by the excellence or defect of their own institutes. But the complexional features of the race remain fixed and unchanged, the original impression of nature is never effaced."

And a little afterwards, in the middle of an indignant and pathetic diatribe against Louis XI. and Louis XIV. we are told, that, "in the history of civilized society, there is perhaps no parallel for the moral degradation which enveloped France during the whole of the eighteenth century." By what means French Society has risen from this unparalleled moral degradation to the no less unparalleled elevation which we have seen it has reached, at least among the inhabitants of the country, and this, in spite of "the influence of soil and climate, and physical structure," which, we may suppose, have not experienced any considerable alteration, could not but form a very interesting subject of inquiry; if it were not clear as daylight, that government and religion, or the want of both, according to Lady Morgan, have been the sole causes of both these extremes, and that soil and climate, and physical structure, have nothing to do in the matter. But it is not our business to dwell on trifling inconsistencies in such a splendid exordium.—Further, all the crimes of the Revolution are ascribed to the training given to the population under the despotism of the old government, when it seems the "question or torture was a thing of every day occurrence;" but, upon Buonaparte's elevation to the imperial dignity, "by the unanimous election of the people," the moral character of the whole nation seems to have undergone a radical improvement. Not only were crimes punished, by the sword of justice, wielded by so powerful an arm, or prevented by the vigilance of his police, but the vices and follies fostered by the corruptions of the old regime, were banished from society by means of the excellent example set before his subjects by this eminent person himself;—upon whom Lady Morgan now pronounces a very splendid eulogium, contrasting, for the sake of effect, the better parts of his character with the fooleries and imbecility of some other crowned heads. As to the old nobility, who are treated on all occasions with very little ceremony, the *modérés* and *ultras* differ chiefly in this, that the former have attached themselves to the king, and the latter to the princes; in other respects, they are much upon a level, as is fully established by the following elegant passage:—

"Balanced in the measure of their talent, and equally careless of the consequences of their conduct, these two factions occupy the foreground of the scene, and intimately associated, yet fiercely opposed, avowing one principle, yet pursuing different measures, they seem to imitate the warfare of the monkey tribes, who make war on their own species, and threatening vengeance from their opposite trees, grind their teeth, and chatter, and grimace, in expectation of that moment when they may commence with safety to bite, and claw, and to exterminate."

It was the peculiar felicity of Lady Morgan to be well received, and even treated with confidence, by the most opposite political parties. "It has frequently occurred to me," she informs us, "to have witnessed the most opposite discussions, and listened to the most contradictory opinions in the course of the same evening; assisting at a *royalist* dinner, drink-

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ing *ultra* tea, and supping *en republicaine.*" Besides these extraordinary opportunities of procuring the most accurate knowledge of the state of public opinion, Lady Morgan, either for the sake of her rank, or her talents, or of both, seems to have found a ready access to the most distinguished characters of every party, and of every profession. It is impossible not to perceive that she was upon very intimate terms with the emigrant nobility in particular; and, indeed, an ill-natured critic might suggest, that it must have been from them that she has learned to dignify her pages with so exclusive an exhibition of family and high rank. We cannot read a few sentences without being convinced, that her Ladyship had been suddenly raised above her natural level, and set down, as if by magic, on the very summit of French society, from whence, as is usual in such remarkable cases, she disdains to recognise those whom she has left below. With the exception of her literary footman, she holds no communion with inferior people. The ease and freedom of the arrangement of her materials, as well as the grandeur of her conceptions, and the energy of her language, no less than the profusion of splendid names which dazzle the eye in every page, may be held as a sufficient refutation of those who would charge her with republican principles, and allowed to prove, that she is no less ambitious to attain than qualified to adorn, the high station to which for a moment she had been elevated.

One of our own corps to whom we had expressed an opinion similar to what we have just stated, insists, that Lady Morgan's pretensions to intimacy with so many celebrated characters, can only be admitted with very considerable qualifications. After crying out *fudge* for three times, with a very peculiar tone of voice and a most significant movement of features, he observed more gravely, that if it be true that she assisted at *royalist* dinners, drank *ultra* tea, and supped *en republicaine*, the true explanation of the fact is, that she was treated by all parties, with merely that civility with which strangers of any note are received in polished society, but that, in fact, she was admitted by none of them to witness any other discussions than such as are held at table in the presence of their own domestics.—But we shall put it in the power of the reader to judge between us in this important question, upon the answer to which depends the credibility of half the book. We may begin with our author's acquaintance among the royalists, and lay before him their vindication of a much abused establishment under the old regime.

"A very clever and intimate friend of mine at Paris, with considerable talent and some wit, had gotten deeply entangled with the *royalistes enragés*; and was herself indeed *enragée*, to a point that was sometimes extremely amusing. We were chatting one morning, when a royalist acquaintance joined us, and mentioned an ordinance of the king's, which directed the formation of a new military school, after the model of that instituted in 1750, for the education of the young nobility. I could not help remarking, that I doubted whether this new school, upon old rules, would assimilate in its systems with the tactics of the military and polytechnic seminaries, formed during the revolution. My little *enragée* flew into a paroxysm of loyal indignation, and interrupted me with '*mais, ma chère, ne me parlez pas de vos écoles polytechniques*, those hot-beds of *jacobinism* and *brigandage*. It is our wish *(nous autres)* that the rising generation should be shut up, and educated in a profound ignorance of all that has happened for these last thirty years; and that, on coming forth into the world, they might find every thing *in statu quo*, as it was in the *beau siècle de Louis XIV.*'

"And the Bastille?" I asked.

"*Eh, mais oui, ma chère; et la Bastille aussi.*"

"The Bastille, she added, was a sort of *maison de plaisance*, when men of rank were sent to it, for having incurred the displeasure of the king; as in the instance of the Duke de Richelieu, who was visited there by all the beautiful princesses of that day, who were *éperdument* in love with him. That for the *lie du peuple*, it was, if any thing, too stately and too noble a place of confinement; and as for the *iron cages* and *subterraneous dungeons*, they were only for state criminals, who spoke against the king and his government,—'*et tout cela, c'étoit très juste.*' But I insisted on the facility with which a *lettre de cachet* might be procured, to shut up such *suspected* criminals, before any form of justice had pronounced them guilty.

"She shrugged her shoulders, and replied: '*Pour les lettres de cachet, on en peut dire autant de bien que de mal! tenez ma chère!* Suppose I had a brother whose conduct disgraced our family, would you

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have us to expose his shame, and throw an odium on our house, by suffering him to come into a court of justice? No, there was a time, when, under such circumstances, the honour and dignity of a noble family was saved; and a *lettre de cachet* got rid of the *mauvais sujet*, and buried together the criminal and the crime.—*Eh bien il faut toujours espérer que le bon tems reviendra!!!*'"

Lady Morgan's intercourse with the royalists, however, certainly was not so intimate as with what she designates the "unclassed but suspected order," which comprehends all who are not royalists, either *purs* or *exagerés*. "With what pleasure," she exclaims, "have I flown to some forbidden ground, where, in the hallowed circle of amity and confidence, *wit* and *genius* exercised their proscribed witcheries." We should be glad to transcribe some of these fine things for the gratification of our readers, but our author, having once narrowly escaped the Bastille herself, and the iron masque, and the fate of Wilson, Hutchinson, and Bruce, becomes more guarded, and does not venture to disclose the mysteries of this forbidden ground; unless on one occasion, where she presents us with a song of which she heard the first stanzas in the antiroom while she was "unshawling." As it probably was not meant to be a great secret, we may venture to give a few lines of it as a specimen of the "proscribed witcheries" of the "suspected class."

"Comme il faut prendre, en philosophe,
Les accidens fâcheux et bons
J'ai supporté la catastrophe,
Qui nous ramena les Bourbons.
Pour me trouver sous leur passage,
J'ai même fait deux ou trois pas,
Mais je me suis dis, '*c'est dommage*,'
Cà ne tiendra pas, çà ne tiendra pas."

* * * * * *

"Il voudrait régner sur la France
Ce roi, qui parmi ès Français,
Osa dire avec insolence:
"*Je dois ma Couronne aux Anglais.*"

We suspect, after all, that Lady Morgan was not often admitted behind the curtain; for, though she abounds in small incidents, and seizes on every opportunity to hold up the ultra-royalists to derision or suspicion, we can find very little about the constitutionalists and Buonapartists except what is enveloped in general, but certainly very pathetic, reflections. She appears much more at home when she aims at delighting us, by exhibiting such traits as the following, which are meant to possess the further recommendation of exposing her own countrymen to ridicule, though perhaps but too well merited:—

"I was one evening in the apartment of the Princesse de Volkonski, (a Russian lady,) awaiting the commencement of one of her pretty Italian operas, when one of these 'fashion-mongering boys,' as Beatrice calls them, newly arrived in Paris, appeared at the door of the salon, flushed with the conscious pride of the toilette, and reconnoitring the company through his glass. I had the honour to be recognised by him; he approached, and half yawned, half articulated, some inquiries, which he did not wait to be answered, but drawled on to somebody else, whom he distinguished with his notice. A very pleasant little French woman, the daughter of the Comte de L-s-ge, was talking to me, when my English *merveilleux* joined us. Mad. de V—— stared at him with unsated curiosity and evident amusement; and when he had passed on, asked, '*mais qu'est-ce que cela veut dire?*' I answered, '*C'est un dandi!*'

"*Un dandi!*' she repeated, '*un dandi! c'est donc un genre parmi vous, qu'un dandi?*'

"I replied, 'no; rather *a variety in the species*. I endeavoured to describe a *dandy* to her, as well as *it* would bear definition; asking her, whether there was no *pendant* for it in French society? '*Mais, mon Dieu, oui;*' she replied; '*nos jeunes duchesses sont à-peu-près des dandis.*'

"A few days after this exhibition of *dandyism*, I met with another of the tribe in the hotel of the Baron Denou. He was a young diplomatist, and added the weight of official solemnity to the usual foppery of a *merveilleux*. Associating only with his own spy-glass, he passed with languid indifference from one object to another, in the splendid collection he had been brought to see; but without *once* noticing, by word or look, the eminent and celebrated person, who was so much more worthy of attention, than even the treasures he possessed. M. Denou, too much amused to be hurt by this want of good manners in his guest, followed him, with a look of pleased attention. I could almost trace in his eye a desire to place this modern curiosity among his Chinese josses, and bamboo pagodas. When this rare specimen of '*quaint fashions of the times*' took his leave, Mons. D—— exclaimed with a smile, and a shrug of the shoulders: '*Quel drôle de corps qu'un dandi!*' I was surprised to find that the Egyptian traveller had so far extended his study of the human character,

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as to discover at once an English *dandy*, by its generic character."

Ex his disce omnes. We can now only *look in* upon what remains of Lady Morgan. The third book, having, like the former, the title of "Society," is entirely occupied with the influence and characteristics, and domestic habits of her own sex; but it is an article not very well calculated for family consumption in this country; and we rather think it should have been, like French laces and other prohibited wares, seized as the lawful perquisite of the custom-house officers at the place of its importation. There is something in the following passage, however, amusing enough, to which, though we have not the name, it is not improbable that parallel cases might be found in our own country.

"The *suivante* of the young married lady, frequently becomes in time *la bonne* of the matron; and to her care the children are entrusted; even the first rudiments of their education are committed. *La bonne* is a charming character, peculiar to France; something between the Grecian nurse and the Spanish duenna; with all the affectionate devotion of the one, and all the official dignity of the other. Respected by the servants, beloved by the children, and treated with consideration by her employers, *la bonne* generally remains in the family, after her young charge is consigned to the care of superior instructors. Voltaire is said to have submitted to the jurisdiction of his *bonne*, at the moment that he exercised an absolute authority over the opinions of more than one half of literary Europe.

"In one of the many delightful conversations I had with Madame la Marquise de Vilette, on the subject of Voltaire, her adopted father, she related to me some pleasant anecdotes of the influence which *Barbara*, or, as he called her, *Baba*, his ancient *bonne*, held over him. Barbara was an old Savoyard, peevish, irritable, and presuming; but devoted to her illustrious charge, and watching with maternal solicitude over those infirmities of his age, which her own was exempt from. 'One day,' said Mad. de Vilette, 'during my residence at Ferney, while I was making my toilette, I was startled by the violent ringing of Voltaire's bell. I flew to his apartment, while Barbara (who always sat in his antichamber) hobbled after me. '*Je souma món agonie!*' vociferated Voltaire, as we entered together. '*Je me meure*,'—he then explained to us, that he had drank a cup of rose water by mistake, and was almost poisoned. '*Comment donc!*' exclaimed the provoked Barbara, released from her fears, and restored to her ill-temper.

"'*Comment donc! Il faut être la bête des bêtes, pour faire une telle sottise.*'

"'*Bête, ou non*,' replied Voltaire, with the subdued tone of a chided school-boy, '*il n'est guere plaisant d'être empoisonné même par l'esprit de rose!*'"

"Paris" stands at the top of the fourth, fifth, and sixth books, of which the first is chiefly occupied with a description of the pleasures of the table; the second with an account of the public buildings, and works of art; and the third with a very flattering picture of the industry, civilization, and morals of the "street population." One short extract from the last one may suffice to establish either the credulity or the credibility of our author, and she may hereafter choose her own alternative.

"All the laws in France, directed against mendicity, were rigorously put in force under the imperial government, and the effect of that wholesome discipline still remained. But the best, and surest law, that militates against its existence, is the universal sobriety, the natural industry of the people, and the decrease of the fatal influence of a religion, which inculcates the virtue of beggary, as an article of faith, and the maintenance of idleness, as a pious duty. No mendicant friar—no begging monk, '*pale, mild, and interesting*,' now sets the example of idleness and social degradation to the populace of the streets of Paris, nor way-lays the sentimental traveller, with a dramatic air, and representing sanctity. And though it has been asserted by a modern traveller, who spent a few days in the capital of France, visiting the *Palais Royal*, and walking in the gardens of the Thuilleries, that from the view of society there presented to him, it appeared, 'that France was wholly unchanged by the event of the Revolution;' yet, even to his *impartial* observation, it must have appeared, that there is less misery, less want, less beggary, in the streets of Paris, than is described by any traveller of former times, to have existed in that capital, before the Revolution. In fact, he must have observed that *there is none whatever*.'

We must pass over the seventh book, which treats of the "French Theatre," and bring the present article to a close with one or two short notices of the eighth and last, which professes to make us acquainted with the "eminent and literary characters" of that country. The more prominent parts of its contents, besides the

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usual abuse of the old regime—the tyranny of Louis XIV., and the servility of men of letters in his reign,—are the National, afterwards the Imperial Institute, and now the "Institut Royal de France," with some account of one of its meetings, at which Lady Morgan was present—the often-remarked longevity of the literary characters of France—the unworthy treatment of many of them since the Restoration, and their elegant and contented retirement from public life—the tone of indiscriminate eulogy in which she speaks of all those who had distinguished themselves during the Revolution, or had been honoured with the notice of Napoleon; and, above all, the self-complacency and obtrusive vanity of the author herself, who is quite familiar with them all, and evidently wishes to appear the most distinguished personage amongst them. There is, indeed, a rather interesting narrative of a visit which she made to La Fayette, at his chateau of La Grange; yet we see little more than the exterior of this eminent person, no distinctive lineaments by which he may be known from a thousand others, who live, die, and are forgotten.

Among the many great men who make a figure in the pages of Lady Morgan, it may have excited some surprise that his Holiness has not hitherto been honoured with her notice, especially as she has allotted a reasonable portion of her work to the Catholic superstition, and the "Christian mythology." But here he is at last.

"The Bishop of Blois, however, as he himself assured me, was not the only Catholic prelate who had advocated the cause of liberty, and drawn his arguments in its favour from the same source where he had sought them. 'Here,' he said, one morning, taking a pamphlet from the drawer of his writing-desk, 'here is a singular and interesting sermon, in favour of civil liberty, as intimately united with Christian faith, composed by citizen Cardinal Chiaramonti, bishop of Imola; and addressed to the people of his diocese, in the Cisalpine Government, in the year 1797. Speaking, however, of the union of Christianity and civil liberty, I allow that he goes beyond the line of mere constitutional principles, when he observes—'*oui mes chérs frères, soyez tous Chrétiens, et vous serez d'excellens democrates.*' It was impossible not to smile at the simplicity and gravity with which this was uttered; and I observed, 'your citizen Cardinal has, I suppose, long since paid the forfeit of this imprudent profession of faith.'—'No,' replied the bishop gravely, 'the sentiments of Christian faith, and paternal tenderness, which breathe through the whole of this excellent homily, (some exaggeration in terms and principles which belonged inevitably to that day of exaltation excepted,) have been carried by the excellent bishop of Imola, from his see in Cisalpine Gaul to the throne of the Christian world; and the present successor of St Peter is worthy of the high place he fills.' The citizen Cardinal Chiaramonti is now the venerable Pope Pius VII."

Of the appendix, written by Sir Charles Morgan, we think a great deal better than of the work itself. Though he is far from being pleased with the present state of affairs in France, yet he writes with candour and moderation, and entertains apparently liberal views of the very important subjects of which he professes to treat.—It is a curious circumstance that Sir Charles never appears to have borne a part in the *coteries*, in which his learned lady was so highly distinguished. We do not recollect an instance of his addressing, or having been addressed, in these "circles of amity and confidence," or anywhere else; nor is there a story or a single *bon mot* reported upon his authority.

In a few months, perhaps, this celebrated work will descend to the vale of oblivion; yet all of it, indeed the greater part of it, need not then perish. It does not, perhaps, contain much *pour servir a l'histoire*, but the materials are excellently adapted to another purpose, and are already more than half prepared for it. Let the author listen to the advice of her friends in time. Sir Charles will explain to his lady the importance of the medical adage, *venienti occurrite morbo*. As soon, therefore, as these tomes begin to indicate their approach to the quiescent *pupa* state, no pains should be spared to promote their speedy resuscitation, in their last stage of existence,—when borne aloft upon the wings of fiction they may flutter, like their gaudy and ephemeral prototypes, for another season, to the delight and admiration of a much more extensive and less fastidious circle of readers than she can hope to attract towards the present flippant and ambitious performance

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Comic Dramas, in Three Acts. By MARIA EDGEWORTH. 8vo. London, 1817.

THERE is no department in which prophecy can be less safely hazarded, than in regard to the productions of the human intellect. It is natural to imagine, when we discover a writer signally excelling in any one branch of literature, that a moderate effort will raise him to like eminence in another closely allied, and affording scope for similar talents. Yet there are powerful, though almost invisible, barriers, separating those provinces of mind which seem to lie almost in immediate contact. The most vigorous energies, also, are those which most require to follow their own train, and can least be bent and modified at the will even of their possessor. We believe it is more common for genius to extend her conquests over intellectual regions widely remote, than over provinces of the same region which are separated by any marked natural boundary.

These remarks seem strikingly exemplified by the publication now under review. Could we have ventured to indulge a prediction, it certainly would have been, that Miss Edgeworth, in the Comic Drama, would display to advantage all those qualities with which, in her Tales, we have been so often and so highly delighted. Not only are humour, and the just observation of human manners her leading excellencies; but the dialogues, in their frequent occurrence, are so marked by truth and spirit, and, indeed, so much the most brilliant part of the composition, as to make it seem scarcely possible that her works should not gain by becoming entirely dialogue. We cannot wonder, then, if persons of the best taste should have solicited Miss Edgeworth to attempt filling up this blank in the literature of the present day. Among the number of these advisers, we find, by the preface, was a gentleman whose name bears the very highest authority,—Mr Sheridan, the first wit and first comic writer of the age, who not only urged Miss Edgeworth to write comedy, but even suggested subjects on which her vein might be exercised. To this influence was added that of her father, a much more slender suffrage indeed, but one to which it was most natural that deference should be paid. Miss Edgeworth seems to have felt a secret conviction that such was not her vocation; but, being thus sore beset, she was at length, against her better judgment, prevailed upon to make the trial. The result has been the three,—not comedies, but comic dramas, which compose the little volume before us. She publishes them "to feel her way," justly conscious "that failure in such a humble attempt cannot be attended with much disgrace." In this stage of the attempt, candour seems indispensable; and we have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that the failure is *total*. It is not very easy to develope the causes. Though dialogue be the life of Miss Edgeworth's tales, it is a different sort of dialogue from that which can figure in comedy. It has usually something sedate and deliberate, not those quick and rapid turns, which alone are dramatic. The writer had also a great advantage, when she could make her choice of the time and occasion for introducing the dialogue, and when narrative was always at hand to illustrate, connect, and carry it from one advantageous point to another. In fact, there is nothing pointed or *piquant* in these dramas; no lively interest either in the incidents or situations; no force of comic effect. The plot moves on in a slow unvarying tenor; and the catastrophe, never longed for, is brought about at last by very clumsy and improbable instruments. The only merit is, that the language is always natural. This makes them readable, and would even gain reputation to another writer than Miss Edgeworth; but it is altogether insufficient to support a name that stands otherwise so high.

Viewing the subject in the light now stated, we do not conceive that either analysis or extracts of these dramas could be made with any edification to the reader. Two of them are entirely Irish, and exhibit, we are convinced, a very faithful picture of national manners. We doubt if even this be dramatic. One or two Irish characters may be introduced into comedy with the best effect; but there ought to be an English ground, to set off and give them effect. Besides, we believe a national character is best represented with only the national peculiarities; it is always so viewed by a foreigner; and the mixing with it a

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number of individual features has rather a confused and perplexing effect. The third drama (the second in order) is drawn from fashionable life. Here, too, the dialogue is natural, though not quite so natural. The play has no other merit.

At the close of these observations, we are apprehensive that some good-natured reader may demand why our observations should be thus invidiously confined to the *dramas*, when the new volumes of Tales might have afforded subject of much more grateful observation. Be it known, then, that the said Tales had actually been laid upon our table, in order that our critical powers might be employed thereon: nay, that ideas and remarks were forming in the recesses of our brain, which we fondly hoped might have obtained some favour in the eyes of our readers. Just, however, as we had taken up the pen, to embody them in permanent characters, the door opened, and the Edinburgh Review was placed before us. This is an event which invariably causes a temporary suspension of all other operations; the pen was therefore laid down, and the book opened,—when we descried, with no small consternation, in the table of contents, the very work on which we were about to exercise our own critical vein. This alarm was not diminished, when, on perusing the article, we found a coincidence with our own ideas so close, that almost nothing seemed left but to say the very same things—*worse*. Considering, therefore, that we could scarcely expect to find a reader to whom this provoking anticipation would not be already familiar, we finally determined to shun such formidable rivalship, and to refer our readers to this source of information, where they will really find every thing that can best be said upon the subject of "Harrington and Ormond."

A Narrative of the Briton's Voyage to Pitcairn's Island; including an interesting Sketch of the Brazils, and of the present State of Spanish South America. By Lieut. J. Shilliber, R. M. Illustrated with sixteen etchings by the Author, from drawings on the spot. Second edit. 8vo. London, 1817.

The writer of this narrative begins with apologizing for the imperfections which he is sensible must adhere to it, in consequence of his own total inexperience in literary composition. The work certainly stands much in need of apology. The author possesses not a single requisite for narrating the voyage, except that of having actually performed it. He seems, indeed, a plain well-meaning man; but he has neither the faculty of observing what he sees, nor of describing what he observes, nor of clothing the description in tolerable English. We are no friends to the mysteries of book-making; but really, in the present instance, the employment of a duly qualified person to put the narrative into a decent shape, and even, by proper queries, to extract information, which the original narrator must have possessed, without knowing its value, would have been not only venial, but laudable. Although, too, we are no friends to the lavish use of ornamental appendages, yet it seems going much into the other extreme, to present us with a sailor's rude scratches, "the first productions of his attempts at graphic delineation,"—etched by himself; and which, accordingly, can scarcely vie with those specimens of art, which adorn the title-pages of penny ballads. Had the intelligence of the author at all corresponded with his opportunities, this would have been a most interesting work. Even with all its imperfections, it contains a small portion of very curious information, of which some notices may be acceptable to our readers.

The Briton touched first at San Sebastian, now capital of the Portuguese dominions in South America, and residence of the Prince Regent. Our author, however, does not give any idea of the manner in which the government is administered by that sovereign, nor of the degree of affection with which he is viewed by his transatlantic subjects. The following is almost all the information here conveyed:—The chief trade is in gold and diamonds; but, besides that the Portuguese are adepts in knavery, the residence of the Court has attracted such a number of English, Scotch, and Irish adventurers, that any one who is not profoundly skilled in the articles, is almost infallibly cheated. There is a Chinese warehouse at San Sebastian, and the tea plant has been

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introduced and cultivated with such success, as will soon, it is said, enable Brazil to supplant China in this very extensive branch of commerce. Mr Shilliber gives a very gloomy contradiction to the impressions which we had received respecting the comparatively humane treatment of slaves in the Portuguese settlements. On the contrary, avarice seems here to have dictated more atrocious inhumanity than even in the West India colonies. A trade is carried on by a number of persons, who, having purchased a number of slaves, teach them trades, and send them out to earn their own subsistence, with the condition of bringing in to their master a certain daily sum. All above, indeed, is their own; but the rate is usually fixed so high, that not one in ten is able to reach it; and, in case of failure, the lash is applied without mercy. Many slaves are said to be found lying dead in the streets, being, when thought past recovery, thrown out and disowned by their masters, in order to evade the expences of a funeral.

The vessel having left San Sebastian, nothing occurs in passing Cape Horn, nor till it reaches the groupe of the Gallapagos. These islands are entirely covered with black lava, vomited by a number of volcanic craters, several of which are still burning. The rocks appear, even from the imperfect sketch of the author, to be thrown often into the most picturesque forms. One of them is covered with beautiful plants and shrubs, growing immediately out of the masses of rock. The islands are uninhabited.

Mr Shilliber sailed next to the Marquesas, but adds nothing material to the information communicated by Krusenstern. On his return, however, to the American coast, a truly interesting occurrence took place. The crew being, it appears, a little out of their reckoning, came unexpectedly in the night within view of an island. Day-break soon after enabled them to discover huts, cultivation, and people; while some of the latter were launching canoes and pulling towards them. But when one of the boats came up, no words can paint the astonishment of the crew when they were hailed *in English;* and when the other natives, on arriving, were found all to speak this as their native language. The amazement suffered no diminution, till one of the natives said, "Do you know William Bligh, in England?" This question instantly caused the minds of the crew to revert to certain events, which cannot have escaped the recollection of most of our readers. It is well known, that Captain Bligh having in 1788 sailed with the Bounty to the South Seas, a violent mutiny arose against him; and the mutineers, headed by Christian, the first lieutenant, seized the vessel, and put Captain Bligh, with a few of his adherents, on board an open boat; in which they miraculously crossed the Pacific, and arrived at Timor. Meantime, Christian, with the rest of the mutineers, endeavoured, in 1789, to form an establishment at the island in question, commonly called Pitcairn's Island. Being involved, however, in a quarrel with the natives, they set sail for Otaheite; but after part of the crew had landed, Christian, with some of his companions, cut their cables in the night, and sailed, no one knew whither; and it remained unknown till the discovery now made by the Briton. The man being then asked about Christian, said he had been killed by a black; but that his son was just coming up, being called, by a fantastic multiplicity of names, Friday Fletcher October Christian. He was the first born on the island. The only mutineer now alive was Adams, who ruled over the whole with a sort of paternal authority. The colony at present consisted of forty-eight persons. The women were Otaheiteans, each man having only one wife; and the children were well instructed. They repeated with fluency the creed, and pronounced a solemn prayer at the commencement of every meal; they had also some books still preserved. Their deportment appeared in general very correct and amiable; their quarrels few, and easily appeased by the paternal superintendence of Adams. The females were generally beautiful, and displayed nothing of that loose and forward deportment, which is almost characteristic of the ladies of the South Sea. The village is built in a picturesque situation, of an oblong form, with trees interspersed; the houses small, but regular, convenient, and excessively clean. Each family has a little spot of ground assigned to it, which is very carefully cultivated. The yam is said by our author to be brought

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to a degree of perfection which he never saw it possess elsewhere. Adams was a fine looking man about sixty. He denied having been at all privy to the conspiracy, though, when the crisis came, viewing with horror the severity of Captain Bligh, he had attached himself to the fortunes of Christian. Though sensible that he had thus forfeited all claim to his native country, and was even become liable, by its laws, to the punishment of death, he was yet possessed with the most ardent longing to revisit its shores. He had even made arrangements for returning in the Briton; but the moment this intelligence spread through the colony, it excited such a tempest of tears and lamentations, that he found it necessary to relinquish his intention. We agree with Mr Shilliber in thinking, that his very meritorious conduct in the management of this colony might well atone for guilt so long past, and in which he appears to have so slightly participated.

It is to be regretted that scarcity of provisions did not permit the Briton to stop at the island. She proceeded thence to the American coast, and touched at Valparaiso, Santiago, and Callao, at which last place she remained for some time. Here, with due inquiry, most important information might have been collected. The author, however, saw little, and instead of communicating that little, he fills his pages chiefly with extracts from Robertson and other writers, whose works are in every body's hands. Some particulars are given, however, of the abolition of the inquisition at Lima. The Marquis of Concordia, on receiving orders to this effect from the Cortes, kept them back for nearly six months, till, the fact transpiring, the populace rose, burst open the gates, set the prisoners at liberty, and destroyed all the ensigns of inquisitorial power. The author saw the remains of the council chamber, and the offices of the inquisitors, which displayed the utmost splendour. The cells in which the prisoners had been immured, presented a dismal contrast. They were about eight or ten feet square, and twenty feet high, having a small opening at top for the admission of light and air. We are sorry to say that this detestable tribunal has since been reestablished. At the period of its overthrow, a gentleman of Lima obtained possession of a series of inquisitorial trials, which he afterwards put into the hands of our author, who proposes to publish them, with an English translation. We have no doubt they will possess considerable interest, provided the selection be good, and the translation be made or revised by some one who can write English grammatically.

The Briton touched also at Juan Fernandez, famed for being the solitary refuge of Selkirk, and for the glowing description given of it by Lord Anson. Mr Shilliber confirms every thing which the latter reports concerning the fertility of the soil, and the picturesque beauty of the scenery. It was employed, however, for a dismal purpose,—as a prison for the exiled patriots of Chili. Here they found about sixty venerable old men, whom, a few months before, they had seen at Santiago, living in splendour, now reduced to the most abject misery. During the interval, the old government had regained the ascendancy, which, however, we believe, they have since lost.

The return voyage did not present any incident deserving of record, and the Briton arrived at Plymouth on the 7th of July 1815.

Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa, by the late John Leyden, M. D.; enlarged and completed to the present time, with Illustrations of its Geography and Natural History, as well as of the Moral and Social Condition of its Inhabitants. By Hugh Murray, Esq. F. R. S. E. 8vo, pp. 512, 516. Edinburgh. Constable and Co. 1817.

(Concluded from p. 55.)

In his first introductory chapter, Mr Murray traces the steps of that curious process by which the old world was divided into continents. His observations on this subject, in regard to Europe and Asia, are borrowed from Eratosthenes; but, of the principle adopted by that celebrated geographer, our author very successfully extends the application to Africa. He then describes, with considerable ingenuity and animation, the influence of poetical ideas on the geography of the ancients, particular-

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ly in regard to this mysterious continent. Adverting to the brilliant pictures which the ancient poets have drawn of the Hesperian Gardens, the Fortunate Islands, the Islands of the Blest,—abodes of felicity which geography has never been able to refer to any definite position,—he thus naturally accounts for that fugitive coyness with which they retired from the eager gaze of discovery:—

"There arises involuntarily in the heart of man a longing after forms of being, fairer and happier than any presented by the world before him—bright scenes, which he seeks, and never finds, in the circuit of real existence. But imagination easily creates them in that dim boundary which separates the known from the unknown world. In the first discoverers of any such region, novelty usually produces an exalted state of the imagination and passions; under the influence of which, every object is painted in higher colours than those of nature. Nor does the illusion cease, when a fuller examination proves, that, in the place thus assigned, no such beings or objects exist. The human heart still clings, while it remains possible, to its fond chimeras. It quickly transfers them to the yet unknown regions beyond; and, when driven from thence, discovers still another more remote, in which they can take refuge. The first position of the Hesperian Gardens appears to have been at the western extremity of Libya, then the farthest boundary, upon that side, of ancient knowledge. The spectacle which it often presented, a circuit of blooming verdure amid the desert, was calculated to make a powerful impression on Grecian fancy, and to suggest the idea of a terrestrial paradise. It excited also the image of islands, which ever after adhered to those visionary creations. As the first spot became frequented, it was soon stripped of its fabled beauty. So pleasing an idea, however, was not to be easily relinquished. Another place was quickly found for it; and every traveller, as he discovered a new portion of that fertile and beautiful coast, fondly imagined that he had at length arrived at the long-sought-for Islands of the Blest. At length, when the Continent had been sought in vain, they were transferred to the ocean beyond, which the original idea of islands rendered an easy step. Those of the Canaries having never been passed, nor even fully explored, continued always to be the *Fortunate Islands*, not from any peculiar felicity of soil and climate, but merely because distance, and imperfect knowledge, left full scope to poetical fancy."

Though ancient geographers were alike ignorant of the extent and of the form of Africa, accounts have been preserved of several attempts to explore the length of its coasts, or to penetrate into the depth of the interior. One celebrated expedition, undertaken, at the command of Necho, King of Egypt, by some Phœnician mariners, who are said to have sailed from the Red Sea, and to have returned by the Pillars of Hercules, (the Straits of Gibraltar,) has given rise to much discussion among the learned, both of ancient and modern times. We are inclined, with Mr Murray, to yield to the able arguments by which Major Rennell has supported the probability of this circumnavigation, while we admit the force of the reasoning employed by M. Gosselin and Dr Vincent, to prove the total inadequacy of the means which navigation could furnish, in that period of its infancy, for so important a voyage. Of the attempts to circumnavigate Africa, made by Sataspes, a Persian nobleman, at the command of Xerxes, and by Eudoxus, an enterprising adventurer of Cyzicus, Mr Murray has given an account as detailed, and interesting as the scanty notices to be found in the ancient historians and geographers enabled him to furnish. It is sufficient here barely to advert to these voyages, which seem to have been followed by no important results. No other instances are recorded of any attempts made in those early ages to sail round Africa; but several voyages were undertaken for the purpose of exploring, to a certain extent, its unknown shores. Of these the most ancient, as well as the most memorable, was that of Hanno the Carthaginian, who was entrusted with an armament of sixty large vessels, equipped by the authority o the senate, and at the public expence, and was directed to proceed southwards from the Pillars of Hercules along the western coast. Through the fabulous colouring thrown over this voyage, it is not difficult to recognize a resemblance to many circumstances which more recent observations have ascertained. It is less easy to determine between the different opinions which have been entertained in regard to the extent of coast which Hanno traversed, and the various objects to which his description applies. For the different opinions upon this subject, and the grounds upon which they are supported, our

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limits oblige us to refer to the work itself.

Such of our readers as wish to know how much of the interior of Africa was comprehended within the limits of ancient geography, will find the subject very ably discussed by Mr Murray in his second volume, where he gives a historical view of the different geographical systems which have been formed relating to that mysterious continent. In this introductory chapter, his plan is rather to mark the steps by which discovery had advanced. He adverts, accordingly, to the celebrated journey of the five Nasamonian youths, who, setting out from a district of Northern Africa, which forms part of the modern Tripoli, penetrated many days' journey westward into the great desert, when they were surprised and seized by a body of men, black, and small in stature, and carried through extensive lakes or marshes to a city inhabited by people of a similar appearance. This city was traversed by a great river flowing from west to east, which Major Rennell supposes to have been the Niger. The frantic and disastrous expeditions of Cambyses to the south and west of Egypt, and the scarcely less disastrous march of Alexander to the temple of Jupiter Ammon, seem to have been the only attempts made for several ages to penetrate these terrific regions. The extensive knowledge of the geographers of the first and second centuries, proves that the spirit of inquiry had, during that long interval, been actively directed to that quarter; but of the progressive steps which led to that knowledge, no satisfactory record is now to be found.

On the rise of the Mahometan power, the Arabians, among whom science, banished from every other region, had found her only asylum, were impelled at once, by their migratory disposition, their spirit of commercial enterprise, and their zeal in pursuit of geographical information, to penetrate into the unknown countries of interior Africa. The habits acquired in their native deserts rendered the dangers of the Sahara less appalling to the Arabians than to other adventurers; while the camel, formed by nature for traversing such dreary tracts, enabled them not merely to effect a single journey of discovery, but to establish a regular and constant communication between the countries separated by that wide and dismal barrier. Their first route was probably the same that is still followed by the Cassina caravan from Fezzan to Agades, where the immense breadth of the desert is broken by these large oases, and by others of smaller magnitude. The beauty and fertility of the regions which they found on the southern borders of the Sahara, were greatly heightened, of course, to their imagination, by the desolation of the tract through which they approached them; and their favourable report of these countries, and particularly the gold with which they described them as abounding, soon attracted many other adventurers. During the convulsions which afterwards shook the caliphate, thousands of its subjects sought refuge in these concealed and delightful regions; and before the close of the eleventh century, the banks of the Niger were covered with Mahometan kingdoms. Of these by far the most splendid was Ghana, situated on the eastern part of the Niger, which the Arabian writers called the Nile of the Negroes. To this kingdom was subject Wangara, or the Land of Gold, a kind of island formed by branches of the Niger, by which, during the rainy season, it is almost completely inundated. When the inundation subsides, the inhabitants are said to rush out, and eagerly to dig up the earth, in every part of which they find a greater or less quantity of gold. This gold they give in exchange for various commodities to the merchants who arrive, immediately after, from every part of Africa.

The celebrated description of Africa by Leo Africanus, forms the link between the narrative of Arabian geographers and the discoveries of modern travellers.

We are particularly indebted to Mr Murray for the entertaining detail with which he has favoured us of the exertions made by the Portuguese to penetrate into the interior of Africa, with the view of discovering the empire of Prester John. This detail may be considered as almost entirely new to the English reader; for though something was known of the progress of these enterprising adventurers, the account of their transactions had been either "locked up in the writings of the Portuguese authors, or had been

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reported elsewhere in a very mutilated and imperfect state." We shall transcribe, in Mr Murray's own words, the account which he has given of the whimsical object which the Portuguese kept in view in all these attempts to explore the interior.

"The encouragement afforded by the royal family, and the general excitement throughout the nation, gave a sufficient impulse to the career into which the Portuguese nation had entered. Yet, into the most splendid of human enterprises, there usually enters some odd and capricious mixture. The glory of the Portuguese name, the discovery of new worlds, even the opening of the sources of golden wealth, were all considered as subordinate to the higher aim of discovering the abode of a person, who was known in Europe under the uncouth appellation of *Prester John*. The origin of this mysterious name, which formed the guiding star to the Portuguese in their career of discovery, is somewhat difficult to trace. It attached itself originally to the centre of Asia, where it was reported by the early travellers, particularly by Rubruquis, that a Christian monarch of that name actually resided. The report probably arose from a confused rumour of the Grand Lama, or Priest Sovereign of Thibet. The search, accordingly, in that direction, proved altogether fruitless. At length it was rumoured very confidently, that on the eastern coast of Africa there did exist a Christian sovereign, whose dominions stretched far into the interior. Thenceforth it appeared no longer doubtful, that this was the real Prester John, and that the search had hitherto been made in a wrong direction. The maps of Ptolemy, then the sole guide of geographical inquirers, were spread out; and on viewing in them the general aspect of the continent, it was inferred, incorrectly indeed, yet not unplausibly, that an empire which stretched so far inward from the eastern coast, must approximate to the western; and that by penetrating deep on that side, they could scarcely fail at length to reach its frontier. For this reason, whenever an expedition was sent out to any part of the coast, the first instruction given, was to inquire diligently, if the inhabitants knew any thing of the monarch in question. Every opportunity was also to be embraced of penetrating into the interior; and on hearing the name of any sovereign, an embassy was to be sent to ascertain, if he either was Prester John, or could throw any light as to where that personage might be found."

In search of this imaginary monarch, the Portuguese advanced a considerable way inward from the western coast, and formed considerable settlements along the borders of the Senegal and Gambia. Even in the language of Bambouk, the French found a mixture of Portuguese words, and were informed by the natives that their country had once been invaded and conquered by Portugal. It was owing entirely to the mad bigotry of some of their missionaries, and their ill-judged interference in the public concerns of some of the native states, that they were prevented from penetrating still farther eastward, and forming, as they advanced, more permanent settlements. The simple negroes seldom shewed any aversion to adopt the name of Christians, and as a certain portion of salt, there a highly prized commodity, was administered at baptism, they submitted very willingly to that sacred rite. They could not always be so easily convinced, however, of the necessity of relinquishing all their former superstitions; and the arguments of the Portuguese divines were generally more overpowering than persuasive. The following specimen of the mode of conversion which they occasionally practised may serve to account for the ultimate failure of their missions:

"Meeting with one of the queens," (in the rocky district of Maopongo,) "who with a numerous train was giving the air to an idol, and singing its praise, the missionary stopped her, and began a long discourse to shew the vanity of this worship. Seeing, however, that his arguments were of no avail, he determined to employ a sharper instrument,—the whip. Such was the awe of the missionaries, that not one of the attendants attempted to defend their mistress in this extremity. The father, therefore, immediately directed his two attendants to begin the work of flagellation. In proportion as the blows descended on the sacred person of her majesty, her understanding, it is said, was gradually opened; so that, when a due number had been applied, she declared herself wholly unable to withstand such sensible proofs of the excellence of their doctrine. The fair convert, however, is not said to have expressed gratitude for this mode of delivering her from the errors of paganism; nor would it appear as if she reported the occurrence very favourably to the king. That monarch shewed, ever after, the most marked coldness to the missionaries, and was evidently deterred only by the dread of the Portuguese power from banishing them instantly out of his dominions."

The details of this chapter are in no small degree interesting, and exhi-

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bit an apparently faithful account of the manners and condition of states, not only in the course of the great rivers in the west of Africa, but of the Congo and other streams in Lower Guinea, which no other Europeans have had an opportunity of visiting.

It was not till the reign of Lewis XIV. that the French began to direct their views towards Africa. Under the auspices of that monarch, an association was established, under the title of the West India Company, with the exclusive privilege of trading to Africa, and the West Indian colonies. The visionary schemes of that company soon terminated in ruin; and it was followed by several others equally sanguine and equally unsuccessful. Their agents, however, had the glory of penetrating farther into Africa, and of obtaining more information respecting the most interesting portion of its interior, than any European nation, prior to the spirited exertions of the African Association. Of these adventurers, the most celebrated were Jannequin, who was the first Frenchman who penetrated into the interior of Africa, and who ascended seventy leagues up the Senegal; and De Brue, who, in repeated excursions, reached the falls of Felû, and procured much valuable knowledge respecting the soil, climate, and productions of these formerly unknown countries, and the manners, customs, and condition of the natives. In this career of discovery he was followed by Compagnon, who first entered Bambouk, and succeeded in carrying off some specimens of its golden earth. This kingdom, so attractive from its gold, to the cupidity of European merchants, was afterwards visited by Messieurs Levons, Pelays, and Legrand, and by M. David, who surveyed some of its most interesting districts. Some years after, (1749-50,) the banks of the Senegal were visited by Adanson, the celebrated naturalist, whose narrative is rendered extremely interesting by the variety of curious information which he collected. The last Frenchman who ventured in this hazardous tract was Saugnier, who, viewing every thing through the medium of discontent, has given a distorted representation of the country and its inhabitants, with whom his ill humour involved him in perpetual quarrels.

The exploratory adventures of the English in this quarter, previous to the establishment of the African Association, were neither numerous nor very important. So early as the year 1588, a patent was granted by Queen Elizabeth to certain rich merchants, to carry on the trade of the Senegal and Gambia. In 1618, a company was formed for the purpose of penetrating to the country of gold, and to Tombuctoo. Thompson, a Barbary merchant, was the first emissary of this company. He advanced as far as Tenda, far beyond the former limits of European discovery; but unfortunately fell a victim to the resentment of the natives, with whom he is said to have quarrelled. Jobson, who followed him in the same career, penetrated with much toil and difficulty beyond the falls of Baraconda, to Tenda, which was ceded to him in perpetual right for a few bottles of brandy. He did not long retain, however, his new possession, but took an early opportunity of sailing down the Gambia and returning to Europe. This tract was again pursued in the years 1723-4, by Captain Stibbs, who reached the same spot which had arrested the progress of Jobson. Intelligence was some time after obtained about the interior of Africa, through a very remarkable channel. A young prince, named Job, had been sent by his father, the king of Bunda, to carry on some traffic on the Gambia, with strict injunctions not to cross the river, the opposite bank of which was occupied by the Mandingoes, the deadly enemies of Foota. Curiosity, however, impelled the young prince to transgress the boundary prescribed to him. The evil, of which he had been forewarned, overtook him. He was seized by the Mandingoes, and brought to Joar, where he was sold to an English captain, who was then taking in slaves for America. The miseries which he experienced in his state of servitude in Maryland, to which he had been conveyed, made him resolve to attempt an escape. He had fled across the woods to the county of Kent, in Delaware, where he was apprehended by virtue of the act against fugitive negroes. His situation attracted attention. An old Jaloff, who understood his language, having met him accidentally, explained his whole history; and he was ransomed and

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brought to England with the view of restoring him to his native country. Such was the ardour of this young chieftain's curiosity, that he regarded as fortunate that captivity which had been the means of bringing him to England, where he had an opportunity of acquiring many branches of knowledge, of which he must otherwise have remained ignorant. For the information which he communicated concerning Bunda, apparently the Bondou of Park, we must refer our readers to Mr Murray's work. The last Englishman who explored this part of Africa about that period was Moore, whose long residence in that country, and intimate acquaintance with the natives, render his narrative more important than that of any other traveller before the time of Park.

The four next chapters, containing an account of travels in the Sahara, of the African Association, of Mr Park's first journey, and of Mr Browne's journey, are taken from Leyden's original work; and, as they have been long known to the public, we forbear to say any thing of them at present. For a similar reason, we must pass over the account of Mr Hornemann's travels. Of Nicholls and Roentgen, we can only say, that they fell almost immediate victims to their generous wish to promote the object of the Association. It is with feelings of no ordinary regret that we number among these victims the intrepid and illustrious Park, whom science will ever regret as one of the most magnanimous and deserving of her martyrs.

The narrative of Adams, an American sailor, who had been several years a captive in the heart of Africa, and had lived six months in Tombuctoo, has considerably lowered our ideas of the magnificence of that city. Mr Murray is inclined to give credit, likewise, to the narrative of Riley; but to us, we own, the circumstances in which that narrative has been presented to the public, appear extremely suspicious. We do not mean to attach any blame to the respectable gentlemen who have borne testimony to Riley's veracity; but every one knows how easily the unsuspecting candour of a gentleman may be imposed upon by the seeming honesty of an adventurer, and with what reluctance any good-natured man, when appealed to for the character of one whom he has had no reason to dislike, would be induced to return an unfavourable answer. We regard this very appeal as not the least suspicious circumstance with which the narrative is attended; and a person so fond of the marvellous as Mr Riley shews himself throughout his work, violently shakes our confidence in his good faith.

Within these few days, accounts have been received of the ultimate failure of the last expedition to this fatal continent. It seems now quite ascertained, that no expeditions on so small a scale can ever hope to succeed; and it is even questionable whether the object in view can warrant the waste of so many lives as must still be lost in the pursuit, while Europeans are the adventurers. Might not some of the negroes, who abound in Britain, be educated for the express purpose of becoming the missionaries of the Association? Their appearance would protect them from the barbarous jealousy of their countrymen, while their constitution would be adapted to all the horrors of the climate.

In the account of Abyssinia, with which the second volume commences, Mr Murray adverts to the journeys of Lord Valentia and Mr Salt, which confirm, in every thing essential, the narrative of Bruce. The description of Egypt, from the pen of Dr Leyden, is distinguished by his characteristic strength of judgment and animation of style. For the rest of the volume (except the account of the western coast by Leyden, and the excellent view of the natural History of Africa by Professor Jameson) we are indebted to Mr Murray.—The great length to which this article has already extended, prevents us from entering into any further detail of its contents; but we cannot conclude without expressing, in the most decided terms, our very high opinion of the industry, judgment, and the candour, with which he has executed his very laborious task; and which entitle his work to be classed with the most valuable of our geographical documents.

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ANALYTICAL NOTICES.

FOREIGN JOURNALS.

THE Journals published on the Continent contain, amidst a variety of articles that are only of local or partial application, others that are of great value, but which, from the vehicle in which they are conveyed, are not generally accessible to the British reader. It is proposed, therefore, to open a regular department for the analysis of such articles; and we hope to condense, within a moderate compass, whatever is most curious aud valuable in these various publications. Although we have been as yet able to collect our materials only in a very partial manner, the specimens here exhibited will, it is hoped, prove to our readers the interest of which such an undertaking is susceptible.

On Steam-Boats. By M. BIOT. *(Journal des Savans.)*

M. BIOT, in analyzing the work of Mr Robertson Buchanan on Steam-Boats, gives a view of the steps by which that important invention had been brought to its present state of maturity. The general use of it, after being introduced from America into Britain, is about to be transferred from Britain into France. It seems doubtful if steam-boats will be found of equally extensive application there. Fuel is dearer in France than in England, while the maintenance of horses is cheaper; so that tracking, where practicable, will probably be still found more advantageous. But there are large rivers, such as the Rhine, the Rhone, and the Loire, where, from the irregularity of the banks, and their distance from the current, tracking would be impossible; the same would be the case in crossing the Garonne, near its mouth. In the conveyance of *men*, also, speed is so important, that to ensure it would, in most cases, be worth some additional expence.

M. Biot takes occasion to point out an abuse which is now attempted by some individuals in France. Two companies, it seems, are demanding an exclusive privilege for the employment of steam-boats; one for having imported this machine, so long known, published, engraved, with all its details, in a hundred works; the other, for having thought of this application thirty years ago, though he had abandoned it without deriving any advantage from it. "At this rate," says M. Biot, "there is no foreign invention of which a man may not appropriate to himself the exclusive enjoyment to the detriment of his countrymen. To act thus is purely and simply to undo for his country the benefits which printing procures to civilization."

On the Newly Discovered Works of Fronto. By M. DAUNON. *(Ibid.)*

MARCUS CORNELIUS FRONTO is a name of considerable eminence in Roman literature; both as an orator and epistolary writer, and as the tutor and friend of Marcus Aurelius. No work from his pen, however, had reached modern times, with the exception of a very short treatise on grammar. M. Maio, of Milan, has now discovered a very considerable number of his treatises and letters, along with some addressed to him by Marcus Aurelius, and Antoninus Pius. The process employed by the learned librarian, is the same as that by which he has already rescued from oblivion several fragments of Cicero, viz. tracing the original writing after it had been erazed, and monkish legends written above it.

Fronto has been compared to Cicero; and M. Maio, in rejecting this extravagant estimate, thinks, however, that his letters rank above those of Seneca and Pliny the younger. M. Daunon scarcely conceives that the public, in general, will place him on a level with the two last eminent writers. The most interesting part of the works now discovered is his correspondence with the Emperors. The letters between him and Marcus Aurelius are expressive, on both sides, of the tendcrest attachment. The Emperor says, for example, at the end of one of his letters, "*Vale, mi Fronto jucundissime . . . O qui ubique estis, di boni, valeat, oro, meus Fronto jucundissimus, atque carissimus mihi; valeat semper integro, inlibato, incolumi cor-*

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pore; valeat et mecum esse possit. Homo sanctissime, vale." At another place, on occasion of the death of a grandson of Fronto, he writes: "*Cum autem in singulis articulorum tuorum doloribus torqueri soleam, mi magister quid opinaris me pati, cum animum doles; nihil conturbato mihi aliud in mentem venit, quam rogare te ut conserves mihi dulcissimum magistrum in quo plura solatia vitæ hujus habeo.*" It would not appear as if Fronto had gained this favour by any unworthy subserviency; for many of his letters to Antoninus Pius are in behalf of a friend, Niger Censorius, who had lost the favour of that prince; and in one of them he says, with spirit and elegance, "*Haud sciam an qui (jôr quis or aliquis) dicat debuisse me amicitiam cum eo desinere, postquam cognoveram gratiam ejus apud animum tuum imminutam: nunquam ita animatus fui, imperator, ut cœptas in rebus prosperis amicitias, si quid adversi increpuisset, desererem . . . Quem tu minus amabis, miserum potius quam hostem judicabo.*"

There are also fourteen epistles of Lucius Verus, and twelve to Marcus Aurelius on the oratorical art. The fragments of orations now discovered are too slight to give us any idea of the eloquence of Fronto. All his other pieces likewise, including some written in Greek, are of little importance. These letters prove that Fronto was an African, and born at Cirta, as Bayle had conjectured, contrary to the common opinion, which made him a native of Aquitania.

On the Works of the Bards of Armorican Britany during the middle Ages. By M. Raynouard. (*Ibid.*)

In this article M. Raynouard analyses a work on the above subject by M. de la Rue of Caen. The object of that writer is to prove the existence of the Breton bards, which had appeared doubtful, from no remains of their works being in existence. He conceives them to have been the successors of the Gallic bards, and to have created the machinery of fairies, giants, enchanters, &c. which act so conspicuous a part in the romances of chivalry. These propositions M. Raynouard considers as still remaining to be proved. He quotes, however, from De la Rue, and adds himself, many passages, which seem clearly to prove that Breton, or Armorican *lais*, were not only well known, but held in high estimation at an early period of French and English literature. They are chiefly mentioned by the Norman and Anglo-Norman authors, in consequence of the dependence in which Britany was placed upon Normandy, by the treaty with Charles the Simple. M. Raynouard, however, considers it as a problem still remaining to be solved, why, of all these Breton *lais*, and other poems, not one is now in existence, while, in England, there have been preserved so many specimens of the Gallic poets who wrote or sung at the same time with those of Armorica.

Letters of Wieland to his Friends, from 1751 *to* 1810. By M. Vanderbourg. (*Ibid.*)

These letters are addressed chiefly to Bodmer, Zimmerman, Gleim, Jacobi, and Gessner of Zurich, (not the poet,) who had married Wieland's daughter. They do not throw so much light as might have been expected upon the literary history of the age, but relate chiefly to the private concerns and opinions of the author. They are, in this view, however, very interesting; and M. Vanderbourg takes occasion from them to draw a picture of the life, character, and opinions of a man who held for so long a time the most conspicuous place in German literature.

Wieland was born at Biberach, a city of Swabia, rather of poor parents. He received, however, a good education, and soon displayed premature genius. At the age of fourteen, the perusal of Bayle, Fontenelle, Voltaire, and D'Argens, shook his religious faith, and he even began to doubt the existence of the Deity. The Theodicée of Leibnitz, on which he accidentally lighted, induced a revolution in his sentiments, which was completed by a mystical and platonic love which he conceived for a female cousin, Sophia, afterwards Madame la Roche, who, though married to another, remained his best friend through life. At this time he entered into a correspondence with Bodmer, author of Noah and other poems, the subject of which is drawn from the Sacred Scriptures. Bodmer enjoyed then a high

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reputation in Germany, and was worshipped by Wieland with all the warmth of a young enthusiast. His sentiments at this time must appear striking to those who knew what they afterwards became. He preferred Virgil to Homer, Klopstock to Milton; he could find no words adequate to express his admiration of Young; he spoke with contempt and abhorrence of Boccacio, La Fontaine, Crebillon the younger, and of all free-thinkers; yet he himself was one day to write tales as licentious as those of the authors mentioned, and to carry the freedom of his religious opinions to the utmost height.

About 1756, Wieland became acquainted, and soon after intimate, with Zimmerman, a man of the world, and tinctured with French philosophy. Under his auspices, a rapid change took place in his sentiments, of which the letters enable M. Vanderbourg to trace the progress. It begins to appear in March 1758, when he professes himself to be only a moderate platonist. Two months after, he abjures Young, thinks him enough to turn the head and to corrupt the taste of young persons. November, he criticises severely the Messiah, which he had ranked above all modern epics. February 1759, he admires Diderot, D'Alembert, and the other Encyclopædists. Lastly, in April, the consummation arrives; he considers Bodmer as having become a poet in spite of nature, and as possessing scarcely any merit but that of good intention. He concludes with declaring that he will no longer show himself the *Bodmerian* and fanatic, but will appear to the world in his true colours.

Wieland had hitherto procured a precarious livelihood by teaching, and by the slender profits of his writings; but he now obtained a profitable appointment in the little republic of his birth. This brought him, for the first time, into practical contact with men; and, besides his avocations in the town, he paid frequent visits to the château of Count Stadion. Our author, cameleon-like, took always the colour of the last food on which he fed. He now assumed quite the character of a gay man of the world, though he never fully acquired its tone. The fruits of this new turn of mind were Agathon, Musarion, the Comic Tales, the New Amadis, and other pieces in the same free and showy style. In 1766, he married. After having adored three young ladies successively as goddesses, he united himself to a plain mortal, who had never read one of his works, but who proved herself an affectionate, prudent, and excellent wife. In her society he forgot all his mystic transports, and dreams of romantic bliss; he became the father of a numerous family, to whom he performed faithfully all the parental duties.

In 1769, Wieland was called to the office of first professor of philosophy in the University of Erfurt. In 1772, he was invited by the Duchess of Weimar to superintend the education of her son, Charles Augustus, the reigning Duke. A service of three years secured to him a pension for life. The German Mercury, which he set on foot, augmented his wealth, and he began to draw considerable profit from his works. He spent the rest of his days in easy circumstances, and was even able to purchase a small property, called Osmanstædt, near Weimar.

The character of Wieland, as exhibited in his letters, is thus drawn by M. Vanderbourg. "The letters of Wieland paint him as much happier in the second, than in the first half of his life; we must except, however, the two or three years of his youthful illusions and early love; and he himself speaks afterwards of these as being only a delightful dream. As long as he lived in that solitude so dear to enthusiasts, we remark in him an extreme sensibility, which degenerates even into irritability. Friendship, with him, is a passion almost as exalted as love, and equally liable to storms. The friend to whom he writes is always an incomparable man; his soul always the most beautiful, his talent the most perfect, that ever existed. Zimmerman, Gleim, Jacobi, by turns, present the standard of ideal excellence in morals and poetry; but the more he expects from his friends, the more he is irritated, when he thinks they fail in their duty to him; yet he is soon appeased. Distrust of himself was a prominent feature at an early period of his life, though it did not exclude that vanity with which poets are generally reproached. 'There are moments,' said he one day, 'when I doubt whether I am a man of genius, or a contemptible writer.' That viva-

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city of imagination which is so apt to inflate and depress by turns, is usually accompanied by levity; nor was Wieland exempt from this fault; we see him neglect for years, and even wholly forget, men to whom he had said a hundred times, that his happiness depended in passing his life with them."

Mr Stewart's Outlines of Moral Philosophy. By M. Cousin. *(Ibid.)*

M. Cousin begins with giving a rapid sketch of the progress of moral and intellectual philosophy among the moderns, from Descartes and Leibnitz to Reid. He then proceeds as follows:

"Among the successors of Reid, Mr Dugald Stewart is one of those who have done most honour to the Scottish school, and is indisputably the individual who has deserved best of psychology, in his Philosophical Essays, where he has so well combated Locke and his disciples, and in his admirable work on the Philosophy of the Human Mind, where, after having attempted the analysis of many important faculties, which Reid had too much neglected, he concludes with establishing the new logic which the labours of the Edinburgh school were gradually preparing. But it is chiefly in morals that Mr Stewart has happily filled up the blanks which had been left by Reid, Smith, and Ferguson. Guided by the examples of his predecessors, rich in that multitude of observations which had been brought forward on all sides by the method of the Scottish school, among men to whom the talent of observing cannot be denied, Mr Stewart has composed a work which, comprising them all, ingeniously and methodically distributed in a comprehensive system, may be considered as the most perfect work on morals which has yet appeared in England."

M. Cousin then continues through several numbers an analysis of Mr Stewart's system of morals.

On Lighting with Gas. By M. Biot. *(Ibid.)*

M. Biot says, that, in 1799, the engineer Lebon first conceived the idea of this application of gas. He carried it into practice at Paris, and publicly exhibited the whole interior of his house and garden illuminated with carburetted hydrogen gas, conducted by tubes from the great reservoir to the lamps. He established a similar apparatus in the Theatre *de Louvois*, where M. Biot recollects having seen the flame, which was perfectly white, very calm, and of such brilliancy, that the eye could scarcely support it. Lebon, however, did not derive any profit from his invention, so that his example was not followed, and the thing was soon forgotten. It is only in England that it has been established advantageously, and on a great scale; and from England it is now proposed to introduce it into France. A commission has been named by the Prefect of the Seine, to inquire into the propriety of its adoption. M. Biot conceives, that it cannot be eligible for private use, on account of the great expence of the apparatus even on the smallest scale; but wherever a number of lights are required, the saving will be great; and when the arrangements are properly made, there can be no doubt of the beauty and intensity of the light, of its equability, and the absence of all smell. In an establishment of four hundred lamps, the expence of lighting by gas will be about a third of that by oil. The following is an estimate made by a friend of M. Biot, of the expence of such an establishment, where the original machinery had cost 25,000 francs.

Interest on the capital,	1500 francs.
Coal used, - -	3000
Keeping up and working the machinery, -	1520
Annual expence,	6020
6000 lbs. tar *(goudron)* at 30 fr. per 100,	1800
Ammoniacal liquor,	200
5000 lbs. coak, at 26 fr.	1300
Produce, -	3300
Expence of lighting 400 lamps, - -	2720

On Lithography, or Printing from Stone. By M. Quatremere de Quincy. *(Ibid.)*

This art, which is only beginning to be known in Britain, was invent-

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ed, and has been carried to great perfection, in Germany. Aloys Senneselder, a singer in the theatre of Munich, was the first who observed the property possessed by calcareous stones of retaining lines made by a thick ink, and of transmitting them in all their purity to paper, applied with a strong pressure to the surface of the stone. He observed besides, that the same effect may be repeated by moistening the stone, and applying to the same lines a new dose of printing black. In 1800, he obtained from the King of Bavaria an exclusive privilege for the use of his process during the space of thirteen years; and, in concert with the Baron d'Aretin, he formed at Munich a lithographic establishment, where music, and collections of models of different kinds, are still engraved.

This invention has made few proselytes in Paris, and would perhaps be still unknown there, but for the efforts of M. Engelmann. It would be too tedious to describe the whole process, but the following are the principles on which it depends:

1. A line traced with a crayon, or a thick ink, upon stone, adheres so strongly, that mechanical means are necessary in order to efface it.

2. All the parts of the stone not covered with this substance receive, preserve, and absorb water.

3. If, over the stone thus prepared, there be passed an oily and coloured substance, it will attach itself to the lines drawn by the ink or crayons, and will be repelled by the moistened parts.

In a word, the lithographic process depends on this, that a stone moistened with water repels ink, while the same stone, covered with an oily substance, repels water, and absorbs ink. Thus, when a sheet of paper is pressed upon the stone, the greasy and coloured lines will be transferred to it, and will present a copy of the design drawn upon the stone.

STATISTICS OF AUSTRIA.

(Erneuerte vaterlandische Blatter für den osterriechischen Kaiserstaat.) *

Population of the Empire, according to the Treaty of Paris.

Central Provinces.	*Population.*
1. Austria under the Ens	1,088,115
2. Austria above the Ens	433,247
3. Steyermark	800,093
4. Carinthia	161,550
5. Bohemia	3,137,495
6. Moravia and Silesia	1,709,403
7. Galicia	3,309,813
8. Hungary	7,450,000
9. Sclavonia	496,000
10. Part of Croatia	333,000
11. Transylvania	1,645,121
Reconquered Provinces.	
12. Circle of Villach	118,247
13. Carniola	423,906
14. Austrian Friuli	124,103
15. Trieste and Istria	120,156
16. Cracou	22,617
17. Rest of Croatia	457,779
18. Dalmatia with Cattaro	299,412
19. Venice to the Etsch	1,762,622
20. Milan, with Mantua	1,337,640
Restored Provinces.	
21. Tyrol	620,854
22. Vorarlberg	79,487
23. Innviertel	125,540
24. Part of the Hausruckviertel	95,061
25. Saltzburg	170,848
26. Berchtolsgaden	10,680
Provinces now first added.	
27. The rest of Venice	760,378
28. Ragusa	58,000
	27,151,176
Patrimony of the Second Son.	
Tuscany	1,140,536
Austrian Este.	
Modena, Massa, Carrara, and Garfagnana	368,364
	28,660,076

Number of Students in the Austrian Hereditary Dominions.

	Pub.	Priv.	Tot.
Austria under the Ens	1223	114	1337
Austria above the Ens	347	4	351
Steyermark	666	17	683
Carinthia	282	—	282
Bohemia	3995	112	4107
Moravia aud Silesia	2332	198	2530
Galicia	1612	39	1651
	10,457	484	10,941
Of which there are in			
Vienna	898	103	1001
Prague	1119	25	1144

* This was transmitted, by the Arch duke John, to Dr Duncan, Junior, as the best periodical work published at Vienna.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

VERSES

Suggested by a Tragical Event which lately occurred in a Highland Glen.

'Twas noon—and not a cloud let fall
A shadow on the mountains tall
That yon sweet lake embay;
And not a wandering breath of air
Wrinkled its placid forehead fair;
But like an evening sky unrolled,
Or a broad plate of burnished gold,
The sparkling mirror lay;
And all its lonely margin round,
No sight of living thing, or sound,
The gazer turned away,
From where, within its bosom bright,
The heavens reposed in diamond light,
And mimic banks of freshest green,
And oak-clad hills abrupt were seen,
Inviting still the unsated gaze,
Like fancy's dreams of future days,—
And as sincere as they!

Amid the deep light slumbering,
A bark has spread its idle wing,
But sleeps as motionless and still
As snow wreath on a frozen rill.
It seems a self-suspended thing
Between the heavens that laugh above,
And the fairy world and downward sky,
That fair beneath it seem to lie,
In smiles of answering love.

Why dips not the rower his slender oar,
Nor longer wait the breeze?
His friends expect him on the shore,
All gaily convened at his cottage door,
Embowered 'mong yonder trees.
The pipe has waked its briskest note,
And o'er the green the dancers float;
The mountain nymph, with broach of gold,
And sash with many a silken fold,
Trips by her swain so true and bold,
All in their best array;
For young and old are banded there,
The spousal feast, and glee to share,
Of Angus' bridal day.
His mother's heart is light and glad,
And his little sister wild with joy,
And his father blesses his wandering boy,
Dear to his heart when far away,
And boasts of his favourite lad.

For Angus has a traveller been,
And many a tedious year has spent,
And looked on many a foreign land,
Since he bedewed his native green
With salt tears as he went.
But still where'er he roamed, this strand
Was pictured in his mind;
The richest climes had nought for him;
The regions of the sun were dim;
His heart was wedded to his glen,
And *home* the word that pleased him then,
And those he left behind.
In dreams he walked these scenes among,
Or joined his Mary's evening song;
Or in his pinnace skimmed along
The breast of the glassy lake.
Then her lovely form would beckon him o'er,
And as the light keel struck the shore,
He sprang to her arms,—and she melts away
Like a shadow touched by the finger of day—
He starts, and weeps awake!
Now feels he, like a burning thirst
The love of home; in every thought,
In every prayer, that word is first;
It seemed to parch his tongue with drought—
Home, home was raging in his brain,
And swelled his very throat with pain.

Returned, he scarcely knew the spot!
'Twas not the image in his mind:
He comes a stranger, half forgot
By the dear friends he left behind:
He almost weeps to see the change
That time has on his playmates wrought;
Their looks, their very souls are strange,
And truth a mocking vision seems
To the fond exile, when he sought
The substance of his foreign dreams.

But to thy father's home repair,
Though *thou* art changed, no change is there:
That reverend face is still the same,
And her's that to her bosom prest
Thee parting, ere she sob thy name,
Or weep upon thy thrilling breast,
Gives back the picture worshipped many a day,
Which filial love had fashioned far away.

"But Mary!"—Scarce the word is said,
When, bounding like a hunted fawn,
He sees his own, his chosen maid,
In loveliness undreamed arrayed,
Spring breathless o'er the lawn.

Sweet Mary! ne'er a truer heart
Beat in a warmer breast than thine,
And since the hour that bade you part,
And sent thee back alone to pine,
This earth so fair, these heavens so bright,
Seemed a foul dungeon void of light.
Slow creep the moments clogged with woe,
When expectation dims the eye,
And sickens at the heart; the snow
Descending through a frozen sky,
Falls not more chill upon the breast
Than those dark days of joyless rest.
Poor lone forsaken thing! I see
Thy light form glide by fount or tree,

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Where thou had'st sat the live-long day,
To weep, and chide his long delay;
Or in the oft-frequented grove,
That seemed the very shrine of love,
When he was near, for whom thine eye
And fading cheek are never dry.
Silent and sad thou wanderest there,
Or seated on the cold damp ground,
All heedless of the chilly air
And evening dews that drop around,
And steep thy raven hair;
Thy heart with grief benumbed, and wrung,
Like a sweet instrument unstrung;
Or a clear fountain chained by frost,
Its beauty and its music lost.

They meet,—but ere the long embrace,
In speechless trance one moment stand,
Each gazing on the other's face,
With neck advanced, and outstretched hand,
Unseen, forgotten all around,
Like statues rooted to the ground,
That forward bend with looks of love,
But never from their bases move.
Then gush the soul-relieving tears,
And on his cheek her lips are burning—
Who would not bear the exile's fears
To share his bliss returning!
What joy is his, as once again
Her faithful arms around him strain,
And in her beaming eye appears
Love but increased by absent years!—

This is their bridal day,—and they
From the glad rout have stolen away,
With a few chosen friends to take
A short hour's pastime on the lake;
And there becalmed they lie,
Unmindful of the passing time,
Or of yon lurid clouds that climb
So swiftly up the sky:
Now in the middle heaven they're hung,
And wide their sable folds are flung,
And twice the darken'd hills have rung
Their answer long and loud;
The lake assumes an inky hue,
The sky hath lost its laughing blue,
And holds a funeral pall to view,—
And bursting from the cloud—
—O God! can love nor virtue save
The young, the guiltless, from the grave!
—That bolt hath smote the hapless boat,
And wide her smoking timbers float,
And o'er the lovers shuts the ruthless wave!

August 21, 1817.

LINES

Written in early Youth.

STREAMS, whose torrent waters glide
Down this wild untrodden dell,
Woods that clothe the mountain's side,
Winged wanderers of the fell,
Tell me in what flowery glade
Shall I find my favourite maid?

Echo of the haunted rock,
Heard'st thou not my Azla's song?
Sought she not the plighted oak
Cayla's sylvan banks among?
Lingers she by airy steep,
Or elfin lakelet still and deep?

Rover of the land and sea—
Zephyr! whither dost thou fly?
Bear'st thou home the loaded bee?
Or the lover's secret sigh?
Hast thou not my Azla seen
Through all the mazes thou hast been?

Didst thou perfume, O gentle gale!
In Araby, thy fragrant breath?
In sweeter Tiviot's thymy vale?
On Cayla's hills of blossomed heath?
Or, Zephyr! hast thou dared to sip
The sigh of love from Azla's lip!

Young Azla's eye of tender blue
Outvies the crystal fountain bright,
Her silken locks of sunny hue,
The birch-tree's foliage floating light;
And light her form as bounding fawn
That flies the plains at early dawn.

When o'er her warbling harp I've hung,
And heard its witch-notes wildly blending
With accents of a sweeter tongue
That aye its lovely aid was lending,
I could have deem'd that minstrel fair
Some spirit of th'enchanted air!

Like youthful Spring's refreshing green,
Like dewy Morning's smile of gladness,
The radiance of her look serene
Might win to joy the soul of sadness;
But where in nature shall I find
An image for my Azla's mind!

The azure depths of summer noon
Might paint her pure and happy breast,
Yet, like the melancholy moon,
She loveth pensive pleasures best;
And seeks her fairy solitudes
Embosom'd in the leafy woods.

The melodies of air and earth,
The hues of mountain, wood, and sky,
And loneliness, more sweet than mirth,
That leads the mind to musings high,
Give to the fair enthusiast's face
The charm of more than earthly grace!

But hark!—Adown the whispering grove
I hear the sound of Azla's feet—
She comes, my own, my only love,
My fondly plighted vows to meet—
And, oh! her eyes that softly shine
Confess that angel heart is mine!

SONG.

THE seraph of the bowers above,
Array'd in robes of light and love,
Doth wander through his heavenly grove,
Than human thought more fair, Mary;

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And Thou, amidst thy leafy wood,
Art all so lovely, pure, and good,
That it might seem heaven's solitude,
And thou an angel there, Mary!

Give me these fragrant birchen woods,
These mountain glens, and falling floods,
These wild sequester'd solitudes,
To roam with love and thee, Mary—
Give me, within thy hallowed grove,
To live with thee, my life, my love!
I'll dream—that in the bowers above
An Angel dwells with me, Mary!

SONNET TO———

ART thou some spirit from the realms above
That wanderest here to human ways unknown,
And, when a mortal views thee, fliest the grove?
To meet her longing mate no feathered dove
On swifter pinions flies, than thou hast flown,
Soon as thy glory on my eyes had shown,
And waked my soul to wonder and to love.
Ah! thou art fled, and yet thou wert so nigh,
That o'er my check, warm with the breath of May,
Thy shadow passed, and waked my half-shut eye.
Yet where, my angel, whither wouldst thou fly?
It is to Heaven? O fly not then away!
For Heaven is here, if thou wilt only stay.

Königsberg,
July 25, 1817.

SONNET TO———

THERE, on the streamlet's bank—her grassy bed—
In careless posture, loosely robed, she lies;
One lily arm thrown circling o'er her eyes,
And one, the downy pillow to her head.
Her silken hair, in wavy ringlets shed,
Half veils her red cheek from the burning skies;
And on her thin-robed bosom softly dies
The murmuring breeze in odorous gardens bred.
O sweet and beautiful the dreams must be,
That visit such a frame when sleep has sealed
Its mortal sense, and left the immortal free!
Yet visions more divine thou canst not see,
Than the real bliss, to mortal sense revealed,
That raps my soul while gazing thus on thee.

Königsberg,
July 25, 1817.

ON FRIENDSHIP.

(From the Spanish of Lope de Vega.)

I SAY, have said it, and will ever say,
That friendship is the height of earthly joy;
But where the spot of Spain, or Greece, or Rome,
Can give the friend true and without alloy?

I praise, and reverence, and love, and bless,
The mortal, to whom heaven supreme above
Has given that greatest good, a faithful friend;
Nor scanty here, I own, to me its love.

To have a perfect friend, with whom to share
The very soul, and every weal and woe,
Is truly bliss supreme to man on earth;
—Yet grant not me this choicest boon below:

For though to have, indeed, be matchless gain,
Yet ah! to lose is too, too, bitter pain.

SONG.

THE soothing shades of gloaming
With gladsome heart I see,
When by the streamlet roaming
To meet, my love, with thee.

Oh! then each floweret closing
Seems fairer than by day,
It tells, by its reposing,
Thou wilt not long delay.

Each bird, its vesper singing,
Delights my listening ear,
It tells the hour is bringing
My fairest angel here.

Methinks, more brightly beaming,
The stars look from above:
Each like a fond eye, gleaming
With joy, to see my love.

Oh! come then, love, nor linger,
For day has gone to rest,
And night, with dewy finger,
The woods in grey has drest.

The moon has sought the fountain,
Thy shadowy form to see,
And the cloudlet on the mountain,
A curtain spreads for thee.

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

We have great pleasure in announcing to our readers, that Professor Leslie is at present engaged in a series of very curious and important experiments, which will throw new light on the constitution and phenomena of our atmosphere. In the prosecution of his views, he has been led to construct a delicate and powerful instrument, on which he has bestowed the name of *Æthrioscope*.

Dr Thomas Thomson, author of the System of Chemistry, which, with other works, has deservedly ranked him with the first of modern chemists, has, we are happy to understand, been appointed to fill the situation of Chemical Lecturer in the University of Glasgow.

Mr John Bellamy has now finished his twenty years' labour on the Hebrew Scriptures. The first portion is about to be printed, and will be delivered to the subscribers at one guinea per copy, before the conclusion of this year. We need not inform our theological and bibliographical readers, that, important as are the ancient books of divine revelation, they have not been presented to the Christian world since the second century, except through the medium of translations, made from other translations. It is believed, for example, that the first authorized English version was made for the most part from Luther's German translation, which was itself made from the Latin Vulgate. "Were a version of the Bible," says Bishop Newcomb, "executed in a manner suitable to the magnitude of the undertaking, such a measure would have a direct tendency to establish the faith of thousands—let the Hebrew and Christian prophets appear in their proper garb: let us make them holy garments for glory and for beauty."—"Innumerable instances," says Dr Blackwall, "might be given of faulty translation of the divine original."—And Dr Waterland admits, that, "Our last English version is undoubtedly capable of very great improvements."—"Nothing," says Bishop Louth, "would more effectually conduce to remove objections, than the exhibiting of the Holy Scriptures themselves in a more advantageous and just light, by an accurate revisal of our vulgar translation."—"The version now in use," says Dr Durell, "does not in many places exhibit the sense of the text, and mistakes it, besides, in an infinite number of instances."—"Whoever," observes Professor Symonds, "examines our version in present use, will find that it is ambiguous and incorrect, even in matters of the highest importance."—We need not multiply opinions to the same effect, because it is well known, that the most eminent critics have been uniformly of the same opinion. In his modest prospectus, Mr Bellamy has submitted to the public a few passages, taken at random from his proposed New Translation, and the importance of his corrections will be evident to every one who will take the trouble to compare them with the authorized version.

The Dramatic Works of the late Mr Sheridan, prefaced by a correct life of the author, derived from authentic materials, are preparing for publication, by Mr T. Wilkie, of Paternoster-row. The long subsisting connection between the illustrious author and the Wilkie family, is a guarantee to the public of the genuine character of whatever work appears in which their names are topographically united.

Mr Richard Hand, glass-painter, proposes to publish, by subscription, a Practical Treatise on the Art of Painting on Glass, compiled and arranged from the original manuscripts of his late father, Richard Hand, historical glass-painter to his Majesty. The discoveries of modern chemistry, which have brought to our knowledge various new metals and oxydes, which produce by vitrification many beautiful colours necessary for painting on glass, and which were unknown to the ancients, will be duly noticed, to correct an erroneous idea that they excelled in the art; and, in opposition to the mistaken notion, that the art has been lost, it will be clearly shown that it has been continued to the present day, and that in former times it was never brought to the perfection it has now attained. The mistaken grounds on which the ancients are supposed to have excelled in the art will be pointed out, and such positive proofs of their inferiority be adduced, as will leave no further room for erroneous misconception on the subject.

A pamphlet has lately been printed in London on the subject of the Herculanean manuscripts; and M. Millin, of Paris, has published, in the *Magazin Encyclopedique* some account of the same. It appears that a Dr Sickler, a Hanoverian, conceives he has invented an improved mode of unrolling them, and that he is to be patronised in his plan. Mr Hayter was, in December last, at Paris, with a view to unrol the six manuscripts given by the King of Naples to the Emperor Napoleon; but, being obliged to make use of the ancient method,

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his progress, in spite of his zeal, was not more rapid, nor his success greater, than at Naples.—We collect from a letter of Sir T. Tyrwhitt, that the great collection of these manuscripts remain at Naples in *statu quo*.

The Mineral, Agricultural, and Statistical Particulars of Derbyshire, have with more accuracy and minutiæ been described by Whitehurst, Pilkington, Mawe, and Farey, particularly by the latter, than any other of the English counties; in addition to which, a thick quarto volume on its Topography, Antiquities, and other Analogous subjects, will appear in a very few weeks, by Messrs Lysons, in the course of publication of their Magna Britannia, which is intended to supply similar details for all the counties. It is said to have been all along the intention of the Board of Agriculture and Internal Improvement, to cause separate mineral, manufacturing, and statistical reports to be made and published, regarding each of the counties. A more fit time for prosecuting this design, than the present, has not occurred, since the establishment of this important Board; and it is hoped, that, by its means, the other English counties may, ere many years elapse, be placed on a par with Derbyshire, as to the degree of information collected and published concerning these subjects.

Among the foreigners lately arrived from Rome, says a French paper, is Mr Watson, a Scotch gentleman, who is on his way to London. Mr Watson is the proprietor of the archives of the Stuart family, which he discovered, and bought of M. Tassoni, the Pope's auditor, and executor to the will of the late Cardinal York. These papers are actually on their way to England, the British Government having sent two men of war to Civita Vecchia to transport them thither. They are numerous, authentic, and very valuable—being estimated at half a million. They illustrate every thing obscure in the history of the last Stuarts, and throw new lights on the literature, the history, and the politics of the most interesting period of modern times. In the literary part is a correspondence between King James and Fenelon, Swift, the Bishop of Rochester, Lord Bolingbroke, Marshal Keith, and other equally celebrated personages. In the political part, there are above six thousand autographs of the Stuart Family; as well as a great number of letters from Charles XII., Peter the Great, Louis XIV., and almost all the sovereigns of Europe.

Profesor Orfila, author of the important work on Animal, Mineral, and Vegetable Poisons, has in the press, at Paris, an elementary work on Chemistry. An English translation will appear soon after the publication of the original.

Speedily will be published, a Practical Inquiry into the Causes of the frequent Failure of the Operations for extracting and depressing the Cataract; with a description of a new and improved series of operations, by which most causes of failure may be avoided; by Sir William Adams.

M. L. Abbé Bossut is printing introductory Latin and Italian Books, on the plan of his far-famed introductory French Books. A Latin Word-Book and Phrase-Book, and an Italian Word-Book and Phrase-Book, may therefore be expected in a few weeks.

The following method of curing the Stone has lately been communicated by an African negro:—"Take a quarter of a pint of the expressed juice of horse-mint, and a quarter of a pint of red onion juice, evening and morning, till the cure is perfected. White onions will not have the same effect as red. To get the juice of them, they may be cut in thin slices, and well salted, and bruised between two pewter plates. It is, however, the juice of the horse-mint which possesses the most virtue in this disorder; and a strong decoction of this will generally, in time, effect a cure."

Don Valenzuela has discovered that meat may be preserved fresh for many months, by keeping it immersed in molasses.

A material for roofing, cheap and durable, is formed by dipping sheets of coarse paper (such as button-makers use) in boiling tar, and nailing them on boards or laths, exactly in the same manner as slates. Afterwards the whole is to be coated over with a mixture of pitch and powdered coal, chalk, or brick-dust. This forms a texture, which completely resists every description of weather for an unknown time. Extensive warehouses at Deal, Dover, and Canterbury, and churches and farm-houses in the north, have been so roofed for more than fifty years, without requiring repairs.

Dr E. D. Clarke, in a letter to Dr Thomson, says, that in using the gas blowpipe, two precautions are necessary:—*First*, As a precaution for his safety, the operator, before igniting the gas, should apply his ear to the apparatus, (gently turning the stop-cock of the jet at the same time,) and listen to determine, by the bubbling noise of the oil, whether it be actually within the safety cylinder. The oil may be drawn into the reservoir, whenever the piston is used, if the stop-cock below the piston be not carefully shut, before the handle is raised. If there have been a partial detonation in the safety cylinder, as sometimes happens, when the gas is nearly expended, this precaution is doubly necessary, to ascertain whether the oil have not been driven into the reservoir; when an explosion of the whole apparatus would be extremely probable. Using this pre-

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caution, the diameter of the jet may be so enlarged as to equal one-thirty-fifth of an inch. *Second*, If, with this diameter, the heat of the flame be not sufficient to melt a platinum wire, whose diameter equals one-tenth of an inch, the operator may be assured his experiments will not be attended with accurate results. The melting of the platinum wire ought to be considered as a necessary trial of the intensity of the heat; which should be such, that this wire not only fuses and falls in drops before the flame, but also exhibits a lively scintillation, resembling the combustion of iron wire, exposed to the same temperature. It must, he says, have appeared very remarkable, that while the reduction of the earths to the metallic state, and particularly of barytes, was so universally admitted by all who witnessed my experiments with the gas blow-pipe in Cambridge, the experiments which took place at the Royal Institution, for the express purpose of obtaining the same results, totally failed. This will, however, appear less remarkable, when it is now added, that my own experiments began, at length, to fail also. During the Easter vacation, owing to causes I could not then explain, the intensity of the heat was so much diminished in the flame of the ignited gas, that I was sometimes unable to effect the fusion of platinum wire, of the thickness of a common knitting needle. The blame was, of course, imputed to some supposed impurity, or want of due proportion, in the gaseous mixture; when, to our great amazement, the intensity of the heat was again restored, simply by removing a quantity of oil which had accumulated in the cap of the safety cylinder, and which had acquired a black colour. About this time Dr Wollaston arrived in Cambridge, and was present at some experiments, in company with the Dean of Carlisle, and our professor of chemistry. Dr Wollaston brought with him some pure barytes. It was immediately observed, that with this newly prepared barytes there was no possibility of obtaining any metallic appearance. The barytes deliquesced before the ignited gas, and drops of a liquid caustic matter fell from it. Hence it became evident, that the failure here, and at the Royal Institution, might be attributed to the same cause; namely, the impurity of the barytes; which proved to be, in fact, a hydrate; and its reduction to the metallic state before the ignited gas, was thereby rendered impracticable.

ITALY.

The present eruptions of Vesuvius are astonishing. Copper, iron, acid of soda, sulphur, sulphuric acid, clay, and sometimes ammoniac from salts, often agglomerated, and often divided either wholly or in part. One sees that copper is a chief ingredient in the volcanic productions; one meets with it in abundance in the different species of lavas. Vesuvius, which has been in constant activity since 1813, has entirely covered its ancient crater with a thick crust, in the midst of which the new eruptions have thrown up two little transparent elevations, whence issue smoke, ashes, and stones, which are frequently vitrified, so that, after they have fallen, one finds the ground covered with threads of transparent glass. This crust is so considerable, that, unless it has some support, or if an earthquake should take place, the sinking in of the matter which composes it, will produce an effect similar to that of the eruption which took place in the time of Titus.

M. Maio, of Milan, has lately published an advertisement relative to a treatise on Virtue, discovered by him in the Ambrosian Library, and attributed to Philo, but which was written, according to others, by George Gemistus Plethon, a Greek author of the 15th century; it has even been printed long since under the name of this second author, (*Græcè et Latinè*, Basileæ, Oporin, 1552, 8vo. *Græce cum Stobæo*, Antuerpiæ, Plantin, 1575, in fol. &c.) In consequence M. Maio declares, that he cuts it off from the catalogue of inedited works, recently published by him, observing, however, that it would not be impossible to claim this little tract for Philo—1st, because the Milan MS. ascribes it to him—2d, because the style does not appear unworthy of antiquity—3d, because Gemistus Plethon, who borrowed many things from ancient authors, *e. g.* from Aristotle, Theophrastus, Xenophon, Plutarch, and Arian, may have borrowed this tract from Philo—4th, and lastly, because Philo really did compose works upon Virtue, which we do not now possess. But M. Maio, foreseeing the answers that might be made to these four observations, and being unwilling to enter into any controversy on this subject with the learned, invites them to consider, as annulled, the edition which he has given of this little work, and of which he has distributed but a very few copies. We cannot, however, regret that M. Maio should have been induced to publish this treatise, as we should otherwise have, perhaps, had to wait till another opportunity for the valuable and most important information contained in his preface.

M. Fontani, Librarian at Florence, announces the publication of inedited letters of Poggio, in 2 or 3 volumes 8vo. He proposes also to publish the catalogue of the MSS. of the Riccardian Library. This catalogue will form 3 or 4 volumes in folio.

GERMANY.

The Emperor of Austria, desirous of advancing useful knowledge, and transplant-

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ing to his dominions some of the valuable natural productions of the New World, has availed himself of the opportunity of the marriage and departure of his daughter the Archduchess Leopoldine, to send to Brazil a number of men of science, who, with the permission of the King of Portugal, are directed to explore the most remarkable parts of that country, to examine the different productions of the three kingdoms of nature, and to enrich the European collections with specimens of them. His Imperial Majesty has granted the sums necessary for the expedition, and given the chief direction of it to Prince Metternich. The persons appointed to proceed to Brazil for this purpose are:—Dr Mikon, a physician, and Professor of Botany at Prague; M. Gatterer, belonging to the Cabinet of Natural History; M. Enders, landscape painter; M. Schott, botanical gardener at the palace of Belvedere; Professor Pohl, advantageously known by several works on mineralogy; M. Buchberger, painter of plants; and M. Schick as librarian. The first four sailed from Trieste in the frigates *Austria* and *Augusta*, and the other three will embark at Leghorn with the Archduchess. M. Schreiber, director of the Imperial Cabinet of Natural History, is appointed to write the account of the voyage. Messrs Spix and Martens, members of the Academy of Sciences at Munich, have joined the expedition.

By an agreement concluded by the Courts of Weimer and Gotha, the clear revenues of the university of Jena have been augmented to more than L. 3500 Sterling, so that, with the other resources which it possesses, it will in future enjoy an income exceeding L. 5500.

Anatomical Collection.—We understand the great Anatomical Collection of the Meckels of Halle is now offered for sale. The acquisition of so magnificent and interesting a cabinet would contribute, in an eminent degree, to the progress of physiological and anatomical science in this University. It is to be hoped that some spirited individual will suggest and urge its purchase. The patrons of the University alone, or with the assistance of Government, could easily secure this invaluable collection for Edinburgh.

RUSSIA.

The university of Dorpat in Livonia now numbers 300 students, some of whom come from very remote parts of the empire, as well as from the provinces bordering on the Baltic. The buildings for the university are finished. One is occupied by a philosophical cabinet, and another by the library, containing nearly 30,000 volumes. In these buildings have also been provided halls for public orations, and other solemn acts of the university. The professors hold their lectures in a fine and spacious edifice, situated on the Dornberg; the anatomical theatre is arranged with taste. From amidst the ruins of the ancient cathedral rises another superb structure, one part of which contains the museum, and the other serves for the university church. Professor Jasche and Morgenstern are distinguished by their worth and erudition. In the *Lounge*, or reading-room, a stranger meets with all the scholars of Dorpat, and also the foreign literary, political, and philosophical journals.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

British Monachism, or Manners and Customs of the Monks and Nuns of England; to which are added,—1. Peregrinatorium Religiosum, or Manners and Customs of ancient Pilgrims. 2. Consuetudinal of Anchorets and Hermits. 3. Account of the Continentes, or Women who had made Vows of Chastity. 4. Four select Poems, in various styles. By Thomas Dudley Fosbrooke, M. A. F. S. A. L. 3, 3s.

The third Part of Neale's Illustrated History of Westminster Abbey. Royal 4to. 16s.—Imp. 4to, L. 1, 4s.—Crown folio, (to correspond with the new edition of Dugdale's Monasticon, of which only fifty copies are printed,) L. 1. 11s. 6d.—Imperial folio, L. 2, 12s. 6d.—Proofs on India paper, and etchings, L. 2, 12s. 6d.

Pompeiana, or Observations upon the Topography, Edifices, and Ornaments of Pompeii; by Sir William Gell, F. R. S. F. A. S. &c. and J. P. Gandy, Esq. Arch. No. II. 8vo. 8s.

ARCHITECTURE.

Hints for the improvement of Prisons, and for their better Regulation; by James Elmes, Architect. 6s.

Civil Architecture of Vitruvius, comprising those Books of the Author which relate to the Public and Private Edifices of the Ancients; by William Wilkins, jun. M. A. F. A. S. Fellow of Gonvil and Caius College, Cambridge, Member of the Society of Dilettanti, and Author of Antiquities of Magna Græcia. With 27 Engravings; by W. Lowry. Part II. L. 3, 3s. in elephant 4to,—or L. 6, 6s. royal folio.

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BIOGRAPHY.

The Sexagenarian, or Recollections of a Literary Life. 2 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 1s.

Historical Anecdotes of some of the Howard Family; by Charles, tenth Duke of Norfolk. 8vo. 7s.

Dr Watkins' Memoirs of the Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan; the second and concluding Part. 4to. L. 1, 11s. 6d.

BOTANY.

A Botanical Description of British Plants in the Midland Counties, particularly of those in the neighbourhood of Alcester; with occasional notes and observations; to which is prefixed, a short Introduction to the Study of Botany, and to the Knowledge of the principal Natural Orders; by T. Purton, surgeon, Alcester. With eight coloured engravings, by James Sowerby. 2 vols. 8vo. L. 1.

CHEMISTRY.

Chemical Amusement; comprising a Series of curious and instructive Experiments in Chemistry; by Fred. Accum, operative chemist. 12mo. 8s.

COMMERCE.

Considerations on the British Commerce, with reference particularly to British India, the United States of America, and the Slave Trade. 1s.

DRAMA.

The Persian Hunters, or the Rose of Gurgestan; an Opera, in three acts, performing at the English Opera-house; the words by Tho. Noble, the music by Mr Horn. 2s. 6d.

The Bohemian; a Tragedy in five acts; by G. Soane, A. B. 4s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

Ancient History, abridged for the Use of Schools; by the Rev. John Robinson, LL. D. stereotyped, with Engravings. 6s. 6d.

The Schoolmaster's Assistant; or, the First Introduction to Geography. 4to. 7s. containing twelve half-sheet copperplates.

A New School for Adults; with three hundred instructors, called pictures; being a new plan, whereby grown persons may learn to read almost without a teacher. Also a book to teach children to read; by John Goss, of Hatherleigh. 1s. 3d.

Chrestomathia; Part I. Explanatory of a school for the extension of the new system of instruction to the higher branches, for the use of the middling and higher ranks; 1816, 8vo. Part II. Essay on Nomenclature and Classification; including critical examination of Bacon's Encyclopedical Table, as improved by D'Alembert; 1817; by Jeremy Bentham, Esq.

A Key to Dr Noehden's Exercises for writing German; by J. R. Schultz. 3s. 6d.

Stories Explanatory of the Church Catechism; by Mrs Sherwood. 12mo. 5s.

Eight Familiar Lectures on Astronomy, intended as an introduction to the Science, for the use of young persons, and others not conversant with the mathematics; accompanied by plates, numerous diagrams, and a copious index; by William Phillips. 12mo. 6s. 6d.

FINE ARTS.

The Genuine Works of William Hogarth: with biographical anecdotes; by John Nichols, F. S. A. and the late George Steevens, F. R. S. and F. S. A.; containing Clavis Hogarthiana, and other illustrative Essays; with 50 additional Plates. Vol. III. 4to. L. 4, 4s.

HISTORY.

Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America; by a South American. 7s. 6d.

An Abridgment of Universal History, commencing with the Creation, and carried down to the Peace of Paris in 1763; in which the descent of all nations from their common ancestor is traced, the course of colonization is marked, the progress of the arts and sciences noticed, and the whole story of mankind is reviewed, as connected with the moral government of the world, and the revealed dispensation; by the Rev. E. W. Whitaker. 2 vols. 4to. L. 8, 8s.

HORTICULTURE.

The Florist's Manual, or Hints for the Construction of a gay Flower Garden; with observations on the best method of preventing the depredations of insects, &c. 4s. 6d.

LAW.

Reasons for a farther Amendment of the Act 54th Geo. III. c. 156, being an Act to amend the Copyright Act of Queen Anne; by Sir Egerton Brydges, Bart. M. P. 2s. 6d.

A Treatise on the Law of Arbitration; with an appendix of precedents; by James Stamford Caldwell, of Lincoln's-Inn, barrister-at-law. 18s.

Reports argued and determined in the Court of Exchequer, Easter Term, 1816; by George Price, Esq. Part III. Vol. II. royal 8vo. 5s.

Supplement to a Treatise on Pleading; by J. Chitty, Esq. of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law. L. 1, 11s. 6d.

A Compendious Abstract of the Public Acts, passed anno 1817; with Comments, Notes, and a copious Index; by Thomas Walter Williams, of the Inner Temple, Esq. 12mo. 4s.

MATHEMATICS.

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Mr James Moore's History of Vaccination will speedily be published.

Zapolya, a dramatic poem, from the prolific pen of Mr Coleridge, is now in the press, and will appear in a few days.

In October will appear a Universal History, translated from the German of John Müller; in 3 vols. 8vo. It contains a philosophical inquiry into the moral, and more especially the political causes which have given rise to the most important revolutions.

An octavo edition of Mr Mawe's interesting Travels in the Brazils will be published shortly.

A digested Index to the first 24 vols. of the Evangelical Magazine is nearly ready for publication.

A History of St Domingo, from the earliest period to the present time, from the best authorities, is in preparation.

Miss Lefanu, the Authoress of Strathallen, has in the press a new Novel, entitled, Helen Montergle.

On the 1st of October will appear, from Ackermann's Lithographic Press, a folio work, in 40 pages, containing Ornaments from the Antique, for the use of architects, sculptors, painters, and ornamental workers.

In a few days will be published, Cœlebs Deceived; by Harriet Corp.

The Theological Works of Dr Isaac Barrow are printing at Oxford, in six octavo volumes.

Messrs Cadell and Davies will shortly publish the History of the City of Dublin, Ecclesiastical, Civil, and Military, from the earliest accounts to the present period; its Charters, Grants, Privileges, Extent, Population, Public Buildings, Societies, Charities, &c. &c. extracted from the National Records, approved Historians, many curious and valuable Manuscripts, and other authentic materials: by the late John Warburton, Esq. Deputy-keeper of the Records in Birmingham Tower; the late Rev. James Whitelaw; and the Rev. R. Welsh, M. R. I. A. In 2 vols. 4to, illustrated by numerous views of the principal Buildings, ancient and modern, maps of the City, &c.

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MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

A PARTIAL change has just taken place in the ministry of Louis, which seems to mark the ascendancy of the Constitutionalists, or moderate party, in the French Cabinet. The Duke de Feltre (Marshal Clarke) has been permitted to resign the office of Minister of War, and Marshal Gouvion St Cyr is appointed in his place; whilst Count Molle becomes Minister of Marine in the room of St Cyr. Marshal Davoust also, who, since the capitulation of Paris, has been in disgrace at the Thuilleries, was lately presented to the King, and received from his hands the baton of a Marshal; and General Debelle, condemned to death for his adherence to Bonaparte on his return from Elba, whose sentence was afterwards changed to ten years' imprisonment, has now been restored to liberty by a full pardon from the King. We are now told also, that the Royal Family pay the most marked attention to the family of the Duke of Orleans, who, till very lately, seemed to be the object of suspicion and jealousy at the French Court; and that there appears a studied design of impressing upon the people of France an idea that he stands well with the reigning branch of the House of Bourbon.

These conciliatory measures are viewed with jealousy by a certain class of politicians, who imagine they perceive through them a latent ambition on the part of Louis, that may at no distant period prove as dangerous as that of his predecessor in government. But it is surely too much to presume, because the French King is pursuing a policy calculated to engage the affections of his army, that therefore he must be contemplating schemes of ambition and conquest.

The negociations between Louis and the See of Rome have terminated in a new concordat to regulate the affairs of the Gallican Church. By this convention a suitable provision is to be made by the French Government in State Annuities for the different Roman Sees, &c. The intention of this measure is said to be to restore its ancient splendour to religion; but its policy is certainly a little more questionable than that of those we have just alluded to.

M. Talleyrand Perigord, grand almoner of France, (now appointed archbishop of Paris,) M. de la Luzerne, formerly bishop of Langres, and M. de Beausset, formerly bishop of Alais, have been created cardinals. Several new appointments to archbishoprics and bishoprics are also notified.

The Moniteur contains an ordinance for regulating the Peerage, of France, with respect to the amount of properties and the classification of titles. No person, ecclesiastics excepted, can in future acquire a seat in the Upper Chamber, unless he be possessed of an hereditary estate, amounting, in the case of a Duke, to 30,000 francs (L. 1350 Sterling); of a Marquis or Count, to 20,000 francs (L. 900); and of a Baron or Viscount, to 10,000 francs (L. 450). These estates thus created shall be transmissible with the title in perpetuity in the male line, by order of primogeniture, and will, therefore, secure the respectability and independence which should belong to the Peerage as a constituent part of the legislature.

The King of Prussia, travelling under the name of Count Ruppin, left Paris on the 30th ult. after having spent three weeks in that capital. His Majesty has furnished the first example upon historical record of a reigning sovereign visiting the capital of another kingdom, and mixing apparently so much at his ease in the society of its inhabitants as a private gentleman. The ramblings of Peter the Great were of a different description.

The authenticity of the document, purporting to be a protest of the Archduchess Maria Louisa, against the occupation of the throne of France by the Bourbons, has been pointedly denied by the Austrian Observer, an official journal, published at Vienna.

Desbans and Chayoux, two soldiers of the Royal Guard, who had been found guilty of a conspiracy to murder the two Princes, sons of Monsieur, were shot at Paris on the 6th, and displayed a degree of heroic fortitude which would have done honour to a better cause. Chayoux, when informed that he was struck off from the Legion of Honour, and desired to deliver up the insignia of the order, to avoid such a degradation, immediately tore off the ribbon and cross, and swallowed them; and Desbans, having previously obtained permission, gave the word "fire!" to the picquet who were appointed their executioners.

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SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The King of Spain has issued a code of instructions for the trial of the insurgents in South America who may fall into the power of the Royal troops. Eight classes of criminals, as they are called, are designated to be punished with death, and repeated injunctions are given to execute the punishment with promptness, "to retain the inhabitants within the bounds of obedience." It is painful to contemplate the consequences of this sanguinary measure, inconsistent alike with humanity and good policy. The Patriots, on whom this severity is to be exercised, will doubtless, in their own defence, resort to acts of retaliation, and it follows of course, that this unhappy contest will assume all the horrors of a war of extermination.

The Pope has issued a bull, authorising the King of Spain to levy an extraordinary subsidy of 30 millions of reals on the property of the national church.

The Archduchess Leopoldine has at length sailed for the Brazils, manifesting the confidence entertained by the Courts of Vienna and Rio Janeiro in the security and tranquillity of the Portuguese possessions in South America.

NETHERLANDS.

The King of the Netherlands has appointed Commissioners to negociate a commercial treaty with the United States of America. The conferences on the subject have been opened at the Hague.

An action brought by the Duke of Wellington against the Editor of the Flanders Journal, came on for trial before the Tribunal of Ghent on the 1st instant; and after the Court had taken a week to consider of its judgment, his Grace's complaint was declared to be unfounded, and he was ordained to pay the expences of the suit. The sentence expresses the grounds on which it has been pronounced, which are, that the libel was not calculated to expose the Duke to the consequences of a criminal or correctional action, or to the contempt and hatred of the public. The allegation contained in the article of which his Grace complained was, that, in consequence of his powerful recommendations, a person had been continued in the Government of a certain colony, because of his having administered the Government for the interests of Great Britain. The Duke has appealed against the sentence.

GERMANY.

The formation of a free representative constitution for the Duchy of Holstein has been again postponed. It is more than probable, that, as in Prussia, the project will be finally adjourned *sine die*.—There seems to be an almost general inclination, on the part of the continental Sovereigns, to disappoint those expectations of an ameliorated form of Government, which were held out to their subjects in the hour of peril.

A circular letter has been addressed by the Prussian Minister of the Interior to the evangelical clergy of both confessions in the Prussian dominions, intimating the King's desire, that the words Protestant, Lutheran, or any other denominations which designate particular sects of the Reformed religion, should cease to be used, and that they should be superseded by the word Evangelical. The object of this communication is to correct all feelings of asperity in the different sects, and, by removing all nominal distinctions, to cultivate a spirit of general harmony and mutual indulgence.

A new scheme of finance has been prepared for the kingdom of Hanover, which is distinguished by the establishment of an income tax. The rate is very low, not being more than one per cent. from the revenue of personal gain, and one and a half from the revenue of real property.

In consequence of an official note of the allied powers, addressed to the Swiss Charge d'Affaires at Paris, the Federal Directory of Switzerland have called upon the Cantons to send away the French exiles residing there, who are allowed only to reside in the states of Austria, Russia, or Prussia.

The accounts from different parts of Germany and the north of Europe concur in stating that the prospect of abundance, held out by the harvest, is altogether unexampled. Corn, wine, oil, and every article of subsistence, fall rapidly in price. But in some districts the general joy has been damped by storms of rain and hail, which have done considerable damage to the corn fields.

In one of the counties of Hungary, a case has been produced by nature, which furnishes the Hungarian lawyers with an opportunity to exercise their ingenuity. On a steep declivity upon the river Hernath lay two vineyards, one above the other; the higher one detached itself from the rock, and glided down the declivity upon the lower vineyard, which it now entirely covers. The question is, who is the owner of this vineyard, and who is to be considered the loser?

SWEDEN, NORWAY, AND DENMARK.

The accounts from Sweden, received through the German papers, sufficiently prove the folly and inefficacy of the anti-commercial system adopted by the Swedish Government. The Swedes, notwithstanding their late patriotic speeches on the evils resulting from the use of foreign luxuries, seem just as reluctant as the inhabitants of other countries to part with their accustomed enjoyments. Several vessels introducing

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prohibited foreign goods have been seized in different parts of the kingdom, but in every city the articles continue to be sold, and at 50 per cent. above the prices obtained previous to the prohibition. Coffee, one of the principal articles, is to be had, as usual, at every inn. It seems that *drinking* coffee only is prohibited, and this is ingeniously avoided by calling it *soup*, and *eating* it with a spoon.

The stagnation of trade has been so great in Norway, as to occasion the failure of several eminent houses at Drontheim and Christiana, while the extinction of the ancient and customary relations of commerce has given rise to smuggling, which, it is not concealed, is carried on by the rich capitalists, to the detriment and ruin of the middling and inferior classes of traders.

The Norwegian army consists of 1288 artillery, 1070 cavalry, and 9612 infantry. By the addition of the militia, a total can be formed of 26,515 men.

The Danish government is making extraordinary exertions for the re-establishment of its navy. A new ship of the line has been launched, two new frigates are finished, and two brigs recently constructed are stationed in the Categat.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The accounts from Russia represent that country as cultivating the relations of peace with all its neighbours. On the Persian frontier the army of observation has been considerably diminished; the force still kept up being merely sufficient to repress the incursions of the wandering tribes of Caucasus. The differences with the Turks are likely also to be soon composed, and an important negociation is spoken of as being on foot at Constantinople, for engaging the Porte to allow the free navigation of the Dardanelles to ships paying a moderate toll.

The Emperor Alexander is on the eve of quitting Petersburgh for the long period of eighteen months. His Imperial Majesty will pass the winter between the two capitals of Moscow and Warsaw; after which he proposes to inspect or traverse the southern provinces of his immense dominions. Much good may result from this journey, if his Imperial Majesty carries with him the disposition to rectify abuses, and introduce judicious systems of administration throughout those distant regions.

A convention has, it is said, been concluded, through the intervention of England, between the Porte and the See of Rome, which secures more liberty to the Christians established in Turkey. In consequence of this convention, printing-presses have been established at Constantinople, under the direction of an Italian. Several works in Italian, French, and Latin, have already been printed.

At Constantinople a plot has been discovered, of which the aga of the Janissaries is supposed to have been the author. He was removed to a strong castle, and there he died—how, need not be told to those who understand the expeditious treatment of rebels in Turkey. The Grand Seignor, it is said, has expressed a determination to destroy the formidable power of the Janissaries; a project, the execution of which will certainly be attended with some difficulty and danger.

The famous partizan, Czerney Georges, formerly chief of the Servian insurrection against the Ottoman Porte, has been seized by the Pacha of Belgrade and beheaded. A dispatch from the Austrian Commandant of Semlin, giving an account of this event, states, that Georges had gone to Semendria under a false name, and concealed himself there in the house of a friend; and that the object of this hazardous step was to recover a treasure of 50,000 ducats, which he had hid before quitting Servia, and with which he now designed to retire into Russia. The friend, however, in whom he trusted, was either weak or wicked enough to denounce him to the Pacha of Belgrade, who immediately came to Semendria with an escort of Janissaries, arrested Georges, and also a Greek who accompanied him, made them be beheaded, and sent their heads to Constantinople.

The plague has been raging in a very alarming degree at Constantinople. The hospitals are said to be filled; and the interpreter of the Grand Seignor has been infected by one of his domestics. The intelligence from Smyrna and Candia, with respect to the progress of the contagion in these quarters, is said to be not less distressing.

The Turkish capital has also been the scene of two alarming conflagrations. A fire broke out in the city on the 7th July, which, notwithstanding the presence of the Grand Seignor, and the greatest exertions made to arrest its progress, destroyed the greater part of that quarter of the city inhabited by the Armenians.—And, on the 25th of August, one of the powder-mills behind the Seven Towers blew up with a tremendous explosion: eight lives were lost. Fortunately the fire did not communicate to the magazines of powder, and by prompt exertions its farther ravages were stayed.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

Letters have been received from Bengal to the 21st May, which communicate the interesting intelligence, that, since the fall of fort Hatrass, the British troops had taken eleven other forts from the enemy, which, according to advices received at

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Bengal, from the army, had left his country entirely at the mercy of the British.

CHINA.

Letters, dated the 8th March, are said to have been received from Canton, which state that the Emperor of China has sent a letter to the Prince Regent, requesting that no more embassies may be sent to the "celestial empire." It is reported in the same letters, that the Anti-English party, at the Court of Pekin, have been restored to the Emperor's favour, notwithstanding his late severe edict of censure against them.

AFRICA.

EXPEDITION TO THE NIGER.

It is with extreme regret we have to state the death of Captain Campbell, the able and zealous commander of this unfortunate but well-meant endeavour to explore the interior of Africa. A letter from Sierra Leone, of June 30, states, that intelligence of the loss had arrived at that place a few days before. Captain Campbell was reported to have died of a broken heart, and the expedition was expected to return. The second naval officer in command, who had been left at Sierra Leone on account of ill health, but was recovered, and on his way to join the expedition, returned to Sierra Leone, on hearing of Captain Campbell's death, to consult the Governor upon the future conduct of the expedition. A dispatch was immediately sent home to Lord Bathurst.

ST HELENA.

Lord Amherst, who has lately returned from his unsuccessful mission to China, on his voyage home touched at St Helena, where he had an interview with Bonaparte, of which the following interesting particulars have been published:—Lord Amherst expressed an earnest desire to be introduced to Bonaparte, and although some obstacles presented themselves in the attainment of his object, on account of the schism which still subsists between Sir Hudson Lowe and Bonaparte, they were in due time all removed, and Lord Amherst, together with Captain Maxwell, and Mr Lynn, surgeon of the Alceste, were allowed to wait upon the *Great Man*, (the title generally conferred on Bonaparte at St Helena,) and on the 3d July, Lord Amherst was ushered into his presence at Longwood, whilst Captain Maxwell and the surgeon waited in an antichamber. It was not long before those officers were desired to join. There was nothing in the appearance of Bonaparte which in the least indicated ill health; on the contrary, he looked well, and less bloated than ordinary. In his conversation with the party, his questions were put with his usual rapidity—indeed, they followed each other in such quick succession, that answers could only be given to those which appeared most marked and important. With his general precision, Bonaparte inquired of the officers what stations they filled on board of ship. Learning Mr Lynn was the surgeon, he inquired what system of pharmacy he pursued? "That depends upon circumstances," replied the surgeon. "I hope," rejoined Napoleon, "it is any other than that practised on this island, for here we have the same thing over and over again—bleeding and calomel for ever." The conversation taking a turn on the mission of Lord Amherst to China, his Lordship related the cause of its failure, which he ascribed to the necessity imposed upon him by the Emperor, of smiting the ground nine times with his forehead, an indignity which his Lordship intimated could not be submitted to. Bonaparte answered, "Indeed!—now, had it suited my policy to send an ambassador all the way to the Emperor of China, I should have instructed him to kiss his great toe; and if that would not do, he might, if required, have kissed a more offensive part, provided my object was attained!"

He protested vehemently against his confinement, and said, he knew of no law in existence which gave the powers of Europe the right of detaining him a prisoner on the island of St Helena or elsewhere, and strongly urged the propriety of his present situation being taken into consideration by the crowned heads of Europe. Bonaparte, notwithstanding his disappointment from that quarter, affects great reliance on the justice and impartiality of the Prince Regent of England, when unconnected with national policy and the influence of Ministers; and, with this impression on his mind, he expressed an anxious wish that Lord Amherst would be the bearer of a letter from him to his Royal Highness, which had been prepared for some time, with the intention of forwarding it to England. His Lordship undertook the trust required, which he has faithfully executed; but it is supposed no answer will be returned to the letter.

On inquiry, the officers of the late Alceste found that Bonaparte can have the range of the whole island in his exercise of riding, driving, or walking, provided he will allow a British officer to attend him in his excursions; but this he objects to. As it is, he may extend his walks or rides about twelve miles; but then he is liable to meet, in his perambulations, British centinels at various points, who never fail to present arms to him. Madame Bertrand was seen by the British officers; and the impression made upon them was, that she was a very handsome and clever woman.

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AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

From the latest papers received from the United States, we learn that the President prosecutes his tour of military and maritime inspection upon the frontier, and that he every where receives testimonies of public respect and approbation. On Monday evening, the 4th ult. Mr Monroe arrived at Sackett's harbour, the important and celebrated post upon the lakes of Canada. The United States Bank has received a supply of 84,000 dollars from Lisbon.—Emigration from Europe to America prevails, against every restraint at home and discouragement abroad. A Dutch ship arrived at Philadelphia, which sailed from Amsterdam with 447 passengers. She lost 50 of them on her voyage. The emigration from Europe was particularly extensive in the two last weeks of July. In this short interval, there had arrived at New York—from England, 649 persons; Ireland, 581; Scotland, 137; Wales, 51; and France, 31; making in the whole, with additions from other quarters, 2285 emigrants.

The celebrated M. Lavalette, it appears, has arrived in America.

The negociation relative to the boundary between the British colonies in North America and the United States had not commenced, the British Commissioners not being fully prepared for entering upon it; but it is said that the two Governments have come to an understanding, that neither power is to retain in actual service more than two revenue cutters, of two guns each, on the Lakes, and that six months' notice is to be given of any intention to augment this force on either side.

A person of the name of Thompson has been arraigned at a general sessions of the peace for the state of New York, on charges for kidnapping negroes for the purpose of shipping them to Georgia. Eight of these deluded beings were proved to have been purchased and put on board a schooner, but were afterwards rescued by the authority of the city of New York. The dealer in human beings was found guilty, after a trial of ten hours.

A meeting was held at New York by the Presbyterians, the Dutch, and other Reformed Churches, on 28th July, to form a society for the support of foreign missionaries.

BRITISH AMERICA.

On the 25th of May last, St Andrew's Church, lately erected in the city of St John, New Brunswick, in connexion with the established Church of Scotland, was opened for public worship, by an appropriate discourse from the Rev. Doctor George Burns. A numerous and respectable audience assembled, and several pieces of music were sung, suited to the occasion. The church has since received every patronage and encouragement from the provincial government, and from all classes in that flourishing British colony.

Advices from Quebec, of the 1st August, state, that there had arrived there from the united kingdom 19 vessels, having 1267 settlers, besides other passengers. This number, it was said, will nearly complete 3000, received at this fortress, in the course of the season. It is the project to settle the eastern townships in preference to any other part of the two provinces.

Distressing Fire at Newfoundland.—St John's, N. B. June 24.—On Wednesday the 18th, between 11 and 12 A. M. a most destructive fire broke out in Carbonear, on the premises occupied by a person named Barry; the wind blew a heavy gale from the westward, which scattered the flaming fragments like a shower over the town. The Methodist chapel (nearly half a mile from the spot where it commenced) was in a few moments totally consumed, from some of the burning matter alighting amongst shavings in the churchyard. The parsonage-house providentially escaped. From the chapel the fire was carried half a mile farther, and destroyed a house inhabited by Thomas Clark, at Croker's Cove. In the meantime, 15 houses in town were totally destroyed. We have not heard of any lives being lost.

PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

Recent accounts received from the Brazils state that every thing was tranquil, but the effects of the late attempt at revolution were severely felt. There was scarcely any business doing at Pernambuco, and the greatest distress had been experienced for provisions, which had been rendered more severe by the number of soldiers that had been detached to suppress the late insurrection.

The intelligence from Rio de Janeiro mentions the death of the Count de Barca, chief minister of the king, which has led to the appointment of the following new administration: Thomas Anthonio de Villa Nova, Prime Minister; Count Palmella, now Ambassador at the Court of London, Minister for the Foreign and War Department; Count Dos Arcos, Governor of Bahia, Minister of Marine; M. Bezerro, the Department of the Treasury.

SPANISH AMERICA.

The accounts from some parts of this vast empire are contradictory; but in general less favourable to the cause of the independents than they have been for some time past. In the Caraccas they certainly appear to be losing ground, and one account states that Morillo, the Royalist general, has regained possession of the island

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of Margaretta. There are other rumours of the defeat of Bolivar, and the dispersion of Brion's squadron on the Oronooko; but they seem to rest on doubtful authority.

General M'Gregor's situation in Amelia Island is represented as very critical. His adherents, it is said, are too few to attempt any enterprise of importance. A circumstance is stated, however, in the American papers, which shews that great confidence is placed in his ultimate success. While in the United States, it is said that M'Gregor obtained part of his supplies by mortgaging 44,000 acres of land in Florida, when it should be conquered; and that on this contingency he actually obtained 220,000 dollars.

The situation of General Mina, in Mexico, say the Spanish papers, is completely desperate. The population are unfriendly to his object; and one of the insurgent leaders has gone over to the royalists with 2000 troops, on condition of receiving the King's pardon.—Notwithstanding these statements, however, recent advices from Vera Cruz mention that Mina was marching upon that place in considerable force; and that his approach had excited much alarm there.

Advices from Buenos Ayres, to the 16th June, state, that General San Martin had concentrated his forces in Chili, and marched against the town of Conception and the fortress of Talcaguana. It is stated that the contributions levied by King Ferdinand had become so excessive, as to produce, even among the old Spaniards, a general determination to emigrate. Those who had tangible property were leaving Lima quickly. "If they are good royalists," says the account, "they are heavily assessed, because they are supposed willing to make great sacrifices; and, if they are Americans, the demands are great, in order to prove that they are not insurgents."

WEST INDIES.

A memorial has been presented to the Board of Trade in London, by the merchants of Kingston, in Jamaica, on the state of the trade between that port and the Spanish colonies, which is in many respects deserving of attention. It states, that, since these colonies have been thrown open to the British flag, the trade with them has multiplied beyond all expectation; that upwards of *ten millions Sterling* of British manufactures have already been introduced among a numerous, but almost unknown people; and that, being now familiarized to their use, there is every reason to believe that the increase of consumption would be incalculable, were the intercourse to be kept free from interruption. The swarm of Insurgent privateers which have lately infested the South Sea is stated, however, to have greatly alarmed the traders, and endangered their property; and a hope is expressed that his Majesty's Government will see fit to afford the interests of his subjects that protection, *by convoy*, which is common to the trade of outlet and consumption of British manufactures in these parts of the world.

By a letter from St Kitt's, of so recent a date as the 11th ult. we learn that the face of that island has been entirely scorched, not a shower of rain having fallen there for eight months! and only half crops are expected next year.

Bermuda gazettes, of the 25th June, state, that an infectious disease, which had made its appearance at Antigua and Grenada, had entirely subsided; and the intercourse between these islands and Bermuda was consequently restored.

In consequence of the numerous assassinations in the month of May at the Havannah, there having been nine in one night, the Governor issued an order, that after dark every negro should carry a light, and the guard were ordered to search all persons, without distinction, for knives and other deadly weapons: only swords, if exposed to view by hanging at the side, were allowed to be carried.

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

AUGUST.

Singular Occurrence.—On Thursday the 7th, while a carriage was left standing at Lasswade, the horses were frightened by a boy, and running off, one of them, which was blind of an eye, came forcibly in contact with the parapet of the bridge, and, in his terror, sprung over. In this situation he hung a few moments by the traces, which at last giving way, the animal fell into the river overhead, but immediately re-appeared, and swam to land, with so little injury, as to be able, soon after, to bring the carriage to Edinburgh.

Marine Exercise.—There is now fitting at Plymouth dock-yard, a machine similar to a part of the gun-deck of a man of war, having quarters for three pieces of ordnance, and which, when completed, is intended to be placed in the rear of the Marine-barracks, for the purpose of exercising the whole division of marines at that port in the necessary manœuvres of great guns for sea-service; and, as soon as the differ-

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est parties are deemed sufficiently skilled in this exercise, they are to fire with shot at a mark from the battery at Devil's Point.

15.—*Lord Nelson's Pillar.*—This day, the foundation stone of a grand naval pillar to be raised to the memory of the gallant Lord Nelson, on the South Denies, Yarmouth, was laid with much ceremony. We understand that this splendid monument has been contracted for by Mr Francis Braidwood of Edinburgh, and is to be built of his stone from Cellalo, Fifeshire, the quality of which has received the approbation of the most eminent architects in Britain.

Tornado.—On the 12th the neighbourhood of Aberfeldy was visited by a tremendous thunder-storm. The lightning struck a farmer's house near the village, set fire to the roof, and gave the whole steading a shock resembling that of an earthquake: it went through the roof in a descending angle from the south to the north, ignited the roof on the south, and on the north made a perforation as if a twelve pound shot had gone through it. About 100 yards east from this, and almost at the same time, there was a kind of tornado, which swept away or levelled every thing that obstructed its course. It carried some hay quite out of sight into the air; it crossed the Tay, carrying a very large sheet of the water into the air, and scattering it in various directions. In its progress it swept from their roots corn, potatoes, and shrubbery.

17.—*Dover.* The boats of his Majesty's schooner Pioneer were last night along shore as usual, to look after smugglers. During a gale, one of them was lost off the South Foreland; and out of her crew, of a midshipman and six men, only one man was saved, by swimming to the shore.

18.—*Liability of Coachmasters.*—At the Nottingham Assizes, Barnard *v.* Simpson. The plantiff, at Nottingham, booked a parcel of lace, valued at L. 151, by defendant's coach to Bath, which was stolen or lost. The defendant pleaded the notification in his office, that he would not be liable for goods or parcels of more than five pounds value, unless paid for accordingly. In reply, plantiff contended he had never seen the notification, nor was he bound to read it if he saw it.—Verdict for the plantiff, damages L. 151.

Itinerant Preacher.—In the course of last week, James Duncan, alias *Preacher Jamie*, was twice before the Police Magistrate, Glasgow, for collecting crowds of people in the streets. The account which he gives of himself is this:—"He was born in Dundee, and is a flax-dresser, and having attended the Latin class in St Andrew's University, and having an *extensive* memory, he commenced preacher." He was dismissed, and advised to gain his livelihood by other means. His collection amounted on some occasions to 20s.

Devices of Smugglers.—A curious seizure was made on Friday the 12th at Stonehouse, soon after the arrival of a vessel from Guernsey. A porter, carrying a bedstead from a shore boat, was met on the beach by a Custom-house officer, who, having asked the porter to whom it belonged, and received rather an unsatisfactory reply, thought it right to examine the bedstead. On doing so, he found that the posts and pillars were hollowed out, and contained several hundred pounds worth of lace ingeniously concealed under slides.

20.—*Water Spout.*—This day, one of these phenomena, commonly known by this title, occurred on the mountains Heckbarrow, or Heckbarley, and Blucklow, adjoining the vale of Ennerdale. The atmosphere being unusually dark, the impending clouds burst, discharging the surrounding vapours with incredible fury and noise upon their summits, whereby their whole surface was covered to a considerable depth in one vast sheet or expanse of water, forming a most singular and picturesque appearance, and, by its tremendous noise, deafening people at about a mile distant. Filling the glens of the mountains, it descended with incredible velocity, till it came to a wall adjoining some inclosed ground, (which it was said to be level with,) and burst it in two places. It descended rapidly into the vale below it; inundated and filled with gravel a quantity of hay ground, and finally discharged itself into the river Eden, which is raised to an astonishing height.

Mutiny on board the Chapman Convict Ship.—A letter from a gentleman who sailed in this vessel from Cork, dated at sea 26th May last, in lat. 36. 46. south, long. 18. states, that the convicts attempted several times to effect a rising in the ship, but were always put down by force, and each time obliged to be fired on, by which 12 were killed or died of their wounds, and also three of the crew who joined the mutineers.

21.—In April 1816, twenty-three watches were abstracted from the shop of Mr Wallace, jeweller in Ayr. Every exertion was made to discover the robbers, but without effect. Last week, the Lady Hill of Ayr, on her passage from Dublin, was put into Loch Ryan by contrary winds; and, on being overhauled by the Custom-house officers, some smuggled starch was found in a trunk belonging to one of the sailors, of the name of Hamilton. In a concealed part of another chest, belonging to this man, were found ten watches, of such an appearance as to raise a suspicion that they were not fairly come by. The man was apprehended, and, having made a full

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disclosure of his guilt, was committed for trial.

23.—*A Litigious Neighbour.*—Yesterday, in the Police Court, Edinburgh, a lady on the South Bridge preferred a singular charge against a person possessing premises near her residence, namely, for keeping a cock, which annoyed the complainer by its crowing. Being nonsuited in this, she preferred another equally ludicrous. The defendant had a cow in his byre, which, by its constant lowing, very much disturbed the complainer, particularly on the Sunday mornings. This charge, of course, met with the same fate as the preceding; and both afforded much amusement to the Court and audience.

25.—*Gas Lights in Dundee.*—The workshop of Mr Small, tinsmith, on the north side of the High Street, Dundee, has for some time been lighted up by a gas apparatus of his own construction. Lately he has extended it to some parts of Morren's Inn; and last week it was farther extended to the shop of Mr Robert Donaldson, bookseller. The same cleanly, beautiful, and economical light, is soon to be supplied to several other shops in the neighbourhood.

27.—*Remarkable Incident.*—Yesterday afternoon, the Cowgate, Edinburgh, was flooded the whole extent of the Street by a violent shower, which was accompanied with thunder. At the foot of it, the grating of a common sewer was lifted to let off the water. A boy, about nine years old, was caught by the current, and swept into the sewer. The mother beheld the accident, and felt all the agony of despair. All hope seemed lost; when a countryman, driving a flock of lambs, came up, and learning the circumstance, borrowed an umbrella from one of the bystanders, and descended into the sewer. The boy had recovered himself while in the sewer; and, attracted by the voice of the countryman, laid hold on the hook-end of the umbrella, by which he was drawn towards his deliverer, who produced him alive to the overjoyed mother, and the astonished spectators, after he had been upwards of twenty minutes in the sewer.—At the west end of Queen Street, also, the water ran with such rapidity and force, that the drain could not receive it, so that it forced its way through the street into the Earl of Moray's pleasure ground, thereby undermining the parapet wall, which at last gave way, near thirty yards of it falling with great force into the policy, the stones and railing injuring the shrubbery considerably. Part of the street was likewise carried away.

Mallison's Life Preserver.—In order to ascertain the service which might be derived by the introduction of this invention into the British army, some experiments were recently made at Woolwich, by order of the Commander in Chief. Among others a man was selected who could not swim, carried into deep water, and left to himself In a few minutes after, obtaining confidence, he swam across the piece of water about ninety yards, and back, nearly as well as the best swimmer; thus decidedly proving the security afforded by this simple invention. To show the utility of such an article, it is sufficient to mention that, by the official returns, out of 5511 men embarked for foreign service, 1702, or nearly one-third, perished, through the transports being wrecked, in the course of two years and a half.

28.—*Cast Iron Causeways.*—This improvement, which has been adopted in some parts of London and other places, it is now in contemplation to introduce into Edinburgh; and a part of North College Street has been laid with blocks of cast iron, by way of experiment.

29.—*Golfing.*—A few sons of Caledonia, visitors at Brighton, are establishing a Golf Club. The Downs in the neighbourhood are admirably adapted for this elegant, cheerful, and healthy amusement; chalk pits, and various other interruptions, sufficiently exercise the science of the players, while the salubrity of the air, extensive sea-view, and refreshing breezes, add greatly to the pleasure of the game.

40.—*Shooting.*—The Earl of Fife has been entertaining a party of gentlemen at his shooting lodge in Mar Forest. The party consisted of Sir John Hope, General Duff, Mr Heathcote, Mr H. Heathcote, Mr Balfour, Sir R. Sutton, and Mr Hay. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, it having rained almost incessantly, the list of slaughter during the first week, besides red deer, roe, and ptarmagan, amounted to 821 brace of grouse; a number, we believe, unparalleled in the annals of sporting.

Salmon Fishing.—Notwithstanding a late decision of the Court of Session, prohibiting the catching of salmon in the river Tay by means of stake-nets, the salmon fishings of Scotscraig were last week let at the yearly rent of £1105. Before the late prohibition, these fishings brought about £2100.

Port of Leith.—Such an immense number of vessels from various quarters have arrived at Leith within these few days, that the harbour is crowded to an excess perhaps seldom before witnessed. As a proof of the great increase of the trade of this port, no less than 480 vessels have already arrived this year, with cargoes from foreign ports, being 261 more than last year at the same period.

SEPTEMBER.

1.—*The Esquimaux.*—This singular character, whose dexterous achievements afforded such amusement to the public twelve months ago, has again returned to Leith

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with Captain Newton. Upon revisiting his native country, he learned with much sorrow that his sister, who loved him with the most unfeigned affection, thinking him dead, had died of a broken heart. During his residence there, the natives were continually flocking around him, and would sit for hours together, listening with the greatest astonishment, while he would relate, in his native simplicity, the wonders he had witnessed in this country.

Earthquakes.—On the 7th ult. at twenty minutes past eight A. M. a slight shock of an earthquake was felt at Inverness; and again, yesterday morning, a smart shock was experienced in the same quarter. This last is the fifth since August last year. Like some of the others latterly felt, the concussion was more violent in the districts of Urquhart, Aird, &c. to the westward of Inverness.

Masonry.—On Thursday the 28th ult. a general meeting of the Royal Arch Chapters in Scotland was held in St John's Chapel, Edinburgh, for the purpose of constituting a supreme Grand Chapter of this masonic degree in Scotland, which was done with all due form and ceremony. The meeting was most respectable and numerous; and the representatives of *thirty-four* Chapters from various parts of the country gave their aid and attendance on the occasion.

Barbarous Murder.—At the late Assizes at Castlebar, in Ireland, Mary M'Keal and Anthony Shevlane were convicted of the murder of Shevlane's wife, at Erris, in June 1815. The principal evidence was a child of Shevlane's, aged about eight years, who was not six years old when the murder was committed, and was hitherto deemed too young to be examined in a court of justice.

4.—*Loss of a Herring-Boat.*—Two of the Newhaven herring-boats, arrived from Caithness late last night, state that a boat from Cockenzie was lost in a heavy gale of wind about eight or ten days ago off that coast. There were five persons in her when she went down; but the sea ran too high for those who witnessed the distressing scene to render them the least assistance. The boat almost immediately righted, and was driven on shore. Four of the unfortunate sufferers belong to one family, said to be a father, two sons, and a grandson, all of the name of Donaldson.

Fruit Crop.—The extensive orchards of Cambusnethan, belonging to Robert Lockhart, Esq. brought this year only L. 51, 10s. the least sum they have brought since the year 1802. The average of the common run of years may be estimated at L. 500 or L.600, yielding some years as high as L.800 and L. 900.

Aberdeen.—Last week, the burgesses of Aberdeen were convened by the magistrates, to consider of the embarrassed state of the burgh's funds, when the latter proposed the application to Parliament, for leave to bring in a bill, to impose a small annual assessment, for the liquidation of the debt; and on condition of this being acceded to by the burgesses, the magistrates farther proposed to sanction and support a certain change in the set of the burgh, and in the manner of exhibiting and passing the public accounts. These propositions were ordered to be circulated among the burgesses, and to be taken into consideration on a future day.

6.—*Juvenile Depravity.*—The following case was exhibited this week in the Police Court, Edinburgh:—A girl, not exceeding twelve years of age, was put to the bar, charged with wandering about the streets at night, and having no fixed place of abode. The father, a poor labouring man, attended, and gave a most distressing account of her. He stated that every attempt to make her lead a life of industry had failed; he had locked her up in the closest confinement, but upon one occasion, she had been unguardedly sent to the well for water, when she absconded, and was heard no more of until found wandering betwixt Canterbury and Dover; that a gentleman had taken her into his family at Dover, from whence she again absconded, and was found wandering in London; that, upon receiving her back, he, the father, had taken every care to keep her at home; till, about six weeks ago, she having begged hard to be taken to church, he indulged her, but in going in at the church door, she again gave him the slip, and he never saw her or heard any thing of her, until now he saw her at the bar.

Rape and Robbery.—Yesterday, in the High Court of Justiciary, Bernard and Hugh M'Ilvogue, and Patrick M'Cristal, were convicted of breaking into and robbing the house of Robert Morris, farmer, near Greenock, in March last, binding Mr Morris, and committing rape on Janet Crawford, his sister-in-law, and Mary Black, his servant. They were sentenced to be hanged at Greenock on the 10th October next.

Canal from the British to the Irish Sea.—On the 29th ult. a meeting of the county of Northumberland was held at Newcastle, when it was resolved to apply to Parliament next session, for a bill for cutting a canal from Lemington to Haydon Bridge, keeping in view its ultimate extension to the Solway Frith. Upwards of L. 1000 was subscribed at the meeting.

8.—At the Lancaster Assizes, a special jury was appointed to try the Blanketeers, as they were called, from Manchester. When the trial was called on, however, Mr Topping, the leading counsel for the Crown, rose and said, "That it was not his intention to offer any evidence against the de-

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fendants. At the time the charge was preferred, Manchester was much agitated; but tranquillity now prevailed throughout the county, and a new tone and order of things had arisen. That his Majesty's Government, therefore, never desirous to prosecute any of the King's subjects, but in cases where the public safety demanded it, thought it unnecessary to press any thing against the defendants under the present circumstances, and therefore he, Mr Topping, should offer no evidence."—The defendants were accordingly acquitted.

Child-Stealing.—Janet Douglas was this day found guilty in the High Court of Justiciary of child-stealing. She had carried away from Edinburgh a girl about three years of age, on the 12th May last, and being pursued by the child's father, was found near Dunfermline on the 14th. Sentenced to be hanged at Edinburgh on 15th October.

Homicide.—Same day Robert Reid, the associate of Rae in the cruel treatment of the little sweep-boy Fraser, (noticed at p. 578, in our Number for July,) was found guilty of culpable homicide, and sentenced to seven years transportation.

Montrose.—We have very singular pleasure in communicating to the public the successful issue of the labours of our citizens, and their committee, for a renovated constitution of burgh government. The Lord Advocate has acceded to the desires of the community, and has prepared his report accordingly for the Privy Council, who, it is confidently expected, will confirm his Lordship's recommendation, and will appoint the first day of October for a poll election, in terms of his Lordship's report.—*Montrose Review.*

11.—*Wilful Fire-raising.*—At the Ayr Circuit Court, Margaret Crossan was this day convicted of setting fire to a barn, byre, stable, and stackyard, at Carsegowan, Wigtonshire, in May last, by which the greater part of the premises were consumed, and particularly twelve cows, a bull, and three calves, in the byre. It appeared from the evidence that her motive was malice against Mr Mackean, the proprietor, who had threatened to put her out of her house. She was sentenced to be executed.

Wire Bridge.—Among the numerous objects of curiosity which attract the attention of strangers on the pastoral banks of the Tweed, there are few more worthy of notice than a wire bridge lately thrown over that river, at King's Meadows, about a mile below Peebles, by Sir John Hay, Baronet. The length of the bridge is about 135 feet, the span 110; it is supported by cast iron pillars, instead of abutments, and is perfectly free from vibration; the road-way is four feet and a half broad, and ten feet from the surface of the water. It is a light and elegant structure, and the workmanship has been executed in a very masterly style, by Mr Brown, of the house of Redpath and Brown, ironmongers, Edinburgh.

12.—*Civic Rewards.*—Yesterday the Lord Provost and Council of Edinburgh unanimously voted a piece of plate, value fifty guineas, to Alexander Henderson, Esq. first Bailie of the city, in testimony of their sense of his general active conduct as a Magistrate; but in particular for the able and gentlemanly manner in which Mr Henderson discharged the duties of Chief Magistrate, while the Lord Provost was necessarily absent attending to the interest of the city in London. Also a piece of plate, value one hundred guineas, to Robert Johnston, Esq. Lord Dean of Guild of the city, as a mark of the respect which they entertain of the unremitting attention he has paid to the various duties of his office, and for his zealous and never-ceasing efforts to promote the improvement and good of the city.

13.—*Inhumanity Reproved.*—This forenoon, a boy playing on some rocks near Grantoun, on the Frith of Forth, was surrounded by the tide, and in imminent peril; which being observed by some gentlemen accidentally passing, they applied to a carter near them for the use of his horse, which the fellow inhumanly refused. Some masons working near the spot, coming up, the party without ceremony took the horse from the cart without its owner's permission, and one of the masons having mounted it, relieved the boy from his perilous situation. The result afforded a reproof to the carter more keen than any language of reproach or indignation could have conveyed—the boy, for whose rescue from death he had refused the use of his horse, proved to be his own son!

18.—*Improvements in Edinburgh.*—Creech's Land, in the High Street, was some weeks ago completely levelled with the ground; and yesterday the old jail, the only part of the old Luckenbooths remaining, was begun to be demolished. The criminal prisoners were removed on Monday to the new jail on the Caltonhill, and the debtors, 12 in number, were liberated on Tuesday; their debts having been generously paid by a subscription among the inhabitants. The old jail was erected in 1561, but it is supposed part of it was older, as the east and west ends were erected at different times. It was originally destined for the accommodation of Parliament, and the courts of justice, and also the confinement of debtors and criminals; but since 1640, after the Parliament-house was built, it has been used solely as a jail.

Fever in Ireland.—For several weeks past a most alarming typhus fever has been

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raging in Ireland; scarcely any part of the country being free from it. This wide and rapid extension of the disease has been effected by hordes of beggars traversing the island in every direction; who, pressed by famine, rush into every house the aspect of which affords the hope of relief, and the same breath that thanks the owner for his charity, blasts the hand that bestows it, and spreads desolation through his family. —We have noticed in our obituary the death of Judge Osborne, and several other gentlemen of worth and talents, who have fallen victims to this malady; but we are glad to observe, from the latest Irish papers, that its virulence has considerably abated.

CALEDONIAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday last, the 9th of September, a quarterly meeting of the Caledonian Horticultural Society was held in the hall of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Right Hon. the Earl of Wemyss in the Chair. The following report from the Council was read to the Society:

Report to the Caledonian Horticultural Society, respecting the intended Survey of the present state of Horticulture in Holland, Flanders, and the north of France. September 9, 1817.

Your Council have the satisfaction of being able to inform you, that the horticultural survey of the Netherlands, which was recommended to the society two years ago, by Sir John Sinclair, is now carrying into execution.

The subscription which was set on foot some months ago, for raising one hundred guineas, with the view of defraying the unavoidable expence of this survey, had made such progress, that your council had no hesitation in making an offer of that sum to three gentlemen, who were, in their opinion, in every respect well qualified for the office, to assist in defraying their necessary expences.

The three gentlemen, who, at our request, have undertaken this important duty, are first, Mr Patrick Neill, secretary to the society, whom we consider as one of the most distinguished scientific gardeners among the class of amateurs in Britain, and whose excellent writings on horticultural subjects do him very great honour. The second is Mr James M'Donald, who has been for many years gardener to his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, at Dalkeith Park, and who has enriched your memoirs by many useful practical observations, particularly on the improved culture of currants, onions, and other culinary vegetables, and who is justly esteemed one of the best practical gardeners in Scotland. And the third is Mr John Hay, who has for several years past been much distinguished as having furnished plans for the best new gardens, which have lately been formed in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, particularly that of Prestonhall, formed by the late Sir John Callender; that at Calderhouse, where much was done, by our sincerely lamented fellow member, the late Lord Torphichen; and that at Dalmeny Park, the seat of the Earl of Rosebery, where a garden is at present forming in a style that will do honour to Scotland. Mr Hay is also favourably known to you, by the plan which he lately presented to our society, for an experimental garden at Edinburgh, and for which our gold medal was deservedly awarded to him.

From three such intelligent and discerning surveyors, your council cannot help entertaining very sanguine expectations. It is indeed true, that, of late, horticulture, as well as agriculture, has made a more rapid progress in Scotland than perhaps in any other nation in Europe. But, for the commencement of our knowledge in gardening, we were much indebted to our continental neighbours, and particularly to the Dutch. Not many centuries have elapsed, since, from them, we derived not only our best seeds, roots, and fruits, but even some of our most common esculent vegetables. History informs us, that, in the days of Malcolm Canmore, who reigned in Scotland about the end of the eleventh century, even the common garden lettuce, which then appeared only as a rare dainty on the royal table, was entirely imported from Holland, and was not at that time cultivated in Scotland.

Since that period, indeed, such has been the progress of horticulture in Scotland, that we can now produce from gardens in the environs of Edinburgh, a dessert of fruits, which, for variety of kind, and delicacy of flavour, cannot be excelled, and, perhaps, hardly equalled, on the face of the globe. This, your annual festival of Pomona has repeatedly demonstrated; and we confidently trust, that, notwithstanding the present backward season, the competition of this day will afford additional proof of the skill of our operative gardeners.

Great, however, as our progress has been, much yet remains to be discovered, for in arts and sciences human invention has no bounds; and by the intelligent and discerning philosopher, useful discoveries have often been derived from observing the procedure even of the most ignorant labourer.

Your council need not, therefore, state to you the expectations which they entertain from the present horticultural survey of the Netherlands. The abilities of the men, whom they have induced to undertake this survey, are not unequal to the

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task; and the kingdom of Scotland does not, perhaps, at present, contain three men better qualified for such an undertaking. We confidently trust, that no horticultural knowledge worth importing, from improved varieties of the most common culinary vegetables, to plans of orchards, gardens, and conservatories, on the most extended scale, will escape their discernment. We are not, therefore, without hopes, that this survey will do honour to our society, and be materially beneficial to Scotland. Nay, we even flatter ourselves with the expectation, that, by the publication of future volumes of the memoirs of our society, the benefits resulting from it may in some degree be extended to every corner of the civilized world.

Your council regret much, that the state of our funds does not permit us to bestow even an adequate pecuniary indemnification on those gentlemen who have undertaken this important mission. All we have hitherto been allowed to offer them is one hundred guineas, to aid in defraying their necessary expences. This sum we were authorized by a former meeting to offer, for the expence of two of our members; but, as three gentlemen have, at our request, engaged in this survey, we hope the society will not object to the sum of fifty guineas to each of the three, to aid in defraying the charges of the journey; and, we trust, that a subscription of a single guinea each, from such of our members as may wish to encourage this undertaking, will be fully sufficient to cover that expence, without in any degree encroaching on the ordinary funds of the society, already pledged for other useful purposes.

We cannot conclude this report without mentioning to the society, the very liberal conduct of his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch on this occasion, both by the manner in which he has granted leave of absence to Mr M'Donald, and by the introductions which he has furnished to the continent, for promoting the success of our survey.

Respecting the progress made by our surveyors, we can only at present inform the society, that they were safely landed at Ostend soon after leaving Edinburgh; and, we trust, that at our next quarterly meeting, they will be present in this room, to give you a report of the success with which their survey has been attended.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Acts passed in the 57th Year of the Reign of George III. or in the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Cap. X. *To regulate the Vessels carrying Passengers from the United Kingdom to certain of his Majesty's Colonies in North America.*—March 17.

From and after the passing of this act, no ship or vessel shall sail with passengers from any port or place in the United Kingdom to any port or place in Upper or Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Cape Breton, or Prince Edward's Island, unless the master or other person having or taking the charge or command of every such ship or vessel, and the owner or owners thereof, shall, before the sailing of such ship or vessel from any port or place as aforesaid, enter into security by bond to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, in the penalty of five hundred pounds, with condition that there shall not be taken on board any such ship or vessel any more such passengers than are hereinafter permitted and allowed, and that every passenger, if alive, shall be landed at the port or place to which such passenger shall have contracted to be conveyed: and the master or other person having or taking the charge or command of such ship or vessel, previous to his leaving the said port, shall and is hereby required to deliver to the said collector and comptroller or other principal officer of his Majesty's customs at the said port, a list containing the number of the said passengers, with their names, ages, and descriptions, and the places to which they are to be respectively conveyed; and, upon the arrival of such ship or vessel at either of the aforesaid colonies, the said master or other person, having or taking the charge or command of such ship or vessel, shall deliver the aforesaid copy of the list to the governor of such place or other person acting for him, or to the naval officer or chief officer of the customs at the port of arrival, or to the nearest justice of the peace, who shall be required to examine the passengers within twenty-four hours after their arrival.

Penalty on taking more passengers than the number allowed, L. 50.

Passengers to be apportioned according to the tonnage of the vessel in the proportion of one adult person, or of three children

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under fourteen years of age, for every one ton and a half of the burden of such ship or vessel.

Every such ship or vessel shall be furnished, at the time of her departure to commence the voyage, with at least twelve weeks' supply of good and wholesome water, so as to furnish a supply of five pints of water per day for every such passenger, exclusive of the crew; and the said supply of water shall be stowed below the deck; and every such ship or vessel shall also be furnished with such a supply of provisions as will afford an allowance for every such passenger, exclusive of the crew, during the said period of twelve weeks, of one pound of bread or biscuit, and one pound of beef, or three quarters of a pound of pork, per day, and also two pounds of flour, three pounds of oatmeal, or three pounds of peas or pearl barley, and half a pound of butter weekly; the weekly allowance to commence on the day the vessel puts to sea.

The master or other person having or taking the charge or command of any ship or vessel failing to give out the allowance of provisions and water herein-before specified, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds of lawful money for each and every such neglect and omission.

Abstract of Act to be exposed in the vessel, on penalty of L. 10.

All penalties and forfeitures to be incurred under this Act, shall and may be recovered in a summary way, on the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before any one or more of his Majesty's justice or justices of the peace.

Cap. XI. *To facilitate the Progress of Business in the Court of King's Bench in Westminster Hall.*—March 17.

It shall and may be lawful for any one of the judges of the Court of King's Bench at Westminster, when occasion shall so require, to sit apart from the other judges of the same Court, in some place in or near to Westminster Hall, for the business of adding and justifying special bail in causes depending in the same Court, whilst others of the judges of the same Court are at the same time proceeding in the dispatch of the other business of the same Court in bank, in its usual place of sitting.

Cap. XII. *For punishing Mutiny and Desertion; and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters.*—March 21.

The number of forces are to be 121,035.—Deserters may be transported; and returning before expiration of the term limited shall suffer death.—A deserter enlisted for a limited term may be sentenced to serve for life, &c. and be adjudged to other forfeitures.—Persons receiving enlisting money deemed to be enlisted.—But, when and as often as any person or persons shall be enlisted as a soldier or soldiers in his Majesty's land service, he or they shall, within four days, but not sooner than twenty-four hours, after such enlisting respectively, be carried or go with some officer, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier, belonging to the recruiting party by which he shall be enlisted, or with the person employed on the recruiting service with whom he shall have enlisted, before some justice of the peace of any county, riding, city, or place, or chief magistrate of any city, or town corporate residing or being next to or in the vicinity of the place, and acting for the division or district where such person or persons shall have been enlisted, and not being an officer in the army, and before such justice or chief magistrate he or they shall be at liberty to declare his or their dissent to such enlisting; and, upon such declaration, and returning the enlisting money, and also each person so dissenting paying the sum of twenty shillings for the charges expended or laid out upon him, together with such full rate allowed by law for the subsistence or diet and small beer furnished to such recruit subsequent to the period of his having been enlisted, such person or persons so enlisting shall be forthwith discharged and set at liberty in the presence of such justice or chief magistrate.

Cap. XIII. *For the regulating of his Majesty's Royal Marine Forces while on Shore.*—March 21.

Cap. XIV. *To indemnify such Persons in the United Kingdom as have omitted to qualify themselves for Offices and Employments, and for extending the Time limited for those purposes respectively, until the 25th day of March 1818; and to permit such Persons in Great Britain as have omitted to make and file affidavits of the Execution of Indentures of Clerks to Attornies and Solicitors, to make and file the same on or before the first day of Hilary Term 1818.*—March 21.

Cap. XV. *To continue, until the 5th day of July 1818, an Act of the 46th year of his present Majesty for granting an additional Bounty on the Exportation of the Silk Manufactures of Great Britain.*—March 21.

Cap. XVI. *For raising the Sum of Eighteen Millions, by Exchequer Bills, for the Service of the year 1817.*—March 29.

The Bank of England may advance £12,000,000 on the credit of this Act, notwithstanding the act 5 and 6 Gul. and Mariæ.

Cap. XVII. *To repeal, during the Continuance of Peace, so much of an Act of the 9th year of his present Majesty as prohibits the Exportation of Pig and Bar Iron and certain Naval Stores, unless the Pre-emption thereof be offered to the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy.*—March 29.

Cap. XVIII. *To facilitate the hearing and determining of suits in equity in his*

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Majesty's Court of Exchequer at Westminster.—March 29.

On account of the great increase in the proceedings on the Common Law side in the Court of Exchequer, the Chief Baron is empowered to hear and determine suits in equity, subject to an appeal to the House of Lords.

CAP. XIX. *For the more effectually preventing seditious meetings and assemblies.*—March 31.

It is enacted, That no meeting of more than 50 persons, except county-meetings, be held without notice being given by public advertisement, signed by seven housekeepers, in the local newspaper, five days before such meeting. Notice to be given to the clerk of the peace. Meetings held without previous notice to be deemed unlawful assemblies. Persons continuing assembled contrary to this Act to the number of 12, and not dispersing in one hour after being required to do so by proclamation, to be adjudged guilty of felony, without benefit of clergy, and to suffer death. In case of resistance, justices are indemnified for the killing or hurting of offenders. Sheriffs-depute in Scotland have the same powers as magistrates in England.

It is further enacted, That every house, &c. in which any public lecture, discourse, or debate shall be held, on any subject whatever, for the purpose of raising or collecting money or any other valuable thing from the persons admitted, or to which any person shall be admitted by ticket or token of any kind, delivered in consideration of money, unless previously licensed, shall be deemed to be disorderly. Two justices may license places for lectures, discourses, or debates, for any time not exceeding one year, for which licence one shilling, and no more, shall be paid, revokable at any quarter or general sessions. Upon evidence on oath that any place so licensed is commonly used for the purpose of delivering lectures of a seditious or immoral tendency, justices may adjudge the licence to be forfeited. Lectures delivered at the universities, inns of court, Gresham College, the College of the East India Company, or to any society or body incorporated or established by royal charter, or by authority of Parliament, are excepted from the operation of this Act, as well as lectures delivered by a schoolmaster to the youth under his instruction. Prosecutions to be commenced within six months after the offences. This Act to continue in force till the 24th of July 1818.

It shall not be lawful to convene any meeting of more than 50 persons, within the distance of one mile from the gate of Westminster Hall, except such parts of the parish of St Paul's, Covent Garden, as are within that distance, on any day when either House of Parliament or the Courts of Law are sitting.

After the passing of this Act, all societies or clubs calling themselves *Spenceans*, or *Spencean Philanthropists*, and all other societies and clubs professing the same objects and doctrines, shall be utterly suppressed and prohibited. Societies taking unlawful oaths, or electing committees, delegates, &c. to be deemed unlawful combinations and confederacies within the meaning of the Act 39 Geo. III. c. 79.

This Act not to extend to Freemasons' lodges; nor to declaration approved by two justices; nor to meetings or societies for charitable purposes; nor to Quakers' meetings. Licences of public houses where unlawful clubs are held to be forfeited. Persons not liable to prosecution under this Act for having been members of any club previous to the passing of this Act. This Act not to extend to Ireland, and may be repealed or altered this session.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Aug. 2.—Lieutenant-General Sir John Murray, Bart. to wear the Royal Sicilian Order of St Januarius.

12.—Henry Allen Johnson, Esq. to wear the insignia of the Military Order of William, bestowed by the King of the Netherlands.

25.—Lieutenant-General F. T. Hammond, to be Chief Equerry to the Prince Regent, in room of Sir B. Bloomfield, promoted.

29.—The Right Hon. John Lord Sommers, to be Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire, in room of the Earl of Essex, resigned.

Rear-Admiral Sir David Milne, in consideration of his eminent services, to bear the armorial distinctions following, viz.—A cross moline between three mullets, a fortified light-house, thereon a red flag flying, flanked by a battery of three tiers of guns, with a like flag on the dexter, and another battery on the sinister; the whole intended to represent that part of the works defending Algiers, to which his Majesty's ship Impregnable, bearing the flag of the said Rear-Admiral, was opposed on the ever memorable attack; and for the crest—out of a naval crown a cubit arm, holding the flag of a Rear-Admiral of the Blue, inscribed with the word "Impregnable."

Sept. 4.—The Duke of Northumberland to be Vice-Admiral of the county, in room of the late Duke his father.

5.—The Principal and Professors of the College of Glasgow unanimously elected Doctor Thomas Thomson, now of London, Lecturer in Chemistry in the University.

12.—The University of Marischal College, Aberdeen, conferred the degree of D.D. on the Rev. James Husband, senior minister of the Associate Congregation, Dunfermline.

Member Returned to Parliament.

Aug. 23.—W. Parnell, Esq. for the County of Wicklow, in the room of the Right Hon. G. Ponsonby, deceased.

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

Aug. 22.—The Most Noble the Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford have been pleased to make the following presentations:

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The Rev. Alexander Macpherson to the parish of Golspie, vacant by the death of the late Mr Keith.

The Rev. Angus Kennedy to the parish of Dornoch, vacant by the death of the late Dr Bethune.

The Rev. Duncan Macgillivray to the parish of Laing, vacant by the translation of Mr Kennedy.

The Rev. Hugh Mackenzie to the parish of Assynt, vacant by the translation of Mr Macgillivray.

25.—The Prince Regent has been pleased to appoint the Rev. James Thomson, jun. to be assistant and successor to the Rev. James Thomson, sen. as minister in the parish of Rerrick, in the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright.

The Rev. John Palmer, M. A. to the Rectory of Peldon, vacant by the death of the Rev. Jehosaphat Mountain.

Rev. Wm. Ward, of Mile-end, Colchester, to the Rectory of Great Horkesley.

26.—Mr James M'Gesch, ordained Minister of the Associate Congregation of Minnyhive.

28.—Mr William Rogerson, ordained Minister of the Associate Congregation of Thornhill.

31.—The Right Rev. Dr Walsh, consecrated Roman Catholic Bishop of the United Dioceses of Waterford and Lismere.

Sept. 2.—Mr George Shepperd, ordained Minister of the mission of Fort William.

Mr James Blythe ordained Minister of the Associate Congregation of Urr.

The Duke of Argyll has appointed, by mandate, the Rev. Robert Story, probationer, to be assistant and successor to the Rev. George Drummond, D. D. Minister of Roseneath, Presbytery of Dumbarton.

The Rev. George Addison, lately of Auchterhouse, admitted by the Presbytery of Dundee to the church and parish of Liff and Benvie, vacant by the death of the late Rev. Dr Thomas Constable.

13.—His Grace the Lord Primate of Ireland has made the following promotions in the Diocese of Armagh:

The Rev. William Bisset, Archdeacon of Ross, and Rector of Loughgilly, to the Rectory of Kilmore, and Chancellorship of St Patrick's, Armagh, vacant by the death of the Rev. Richard Bourne.

The Rev. Dr Stewart to the Rectory of Loughgilly.

The Rev. Charles Atkinson to the Rectory of Creggan, and Treasurership of St Patrick's, Armagh.

The Rev. James Campbell to the Rectory and Vicarage of Forkill.

16.—The Lord Chancellor has presented the Rev. Robert Sutton to the Rectory of St Michael's, York.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

The striking similarity that has so long been observed between the last and present seasons is now, we trust, at an end. Since the commencement of September, a very remarkable change has taken place in the state of the weather, and at present has all the appearance of being permanent. During the last half of August, there were only six days dry throughout; but since the beginning of September, there have been only four days in which any rain fell, and that in very small quantities. Of the 3.566 inches of rain stated below, 2.992 inches fell in August, and 574 in September. The temperature too has rather improved since the commencement of the month, for though the thermometer has occasionally sunk lower during the night, it has almost uniformly risen higher during the day than it did in August, so that the mean temperature has been on the whole higher. The annual average quantity of rain in this place is from 20 to 21 inches. In 1816 it amounted to 23.850; but since the commencement of the present year, there has already fallen 21.593, of which 16.451 fell during the four months commencing with May. After all, from the present appearance of the weather, there is reason to expect that the rain of this year may not far exceed the annual average.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

From 17th August to 16th September 1817, inclusive.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	60,921
. . . . . cold,	47.750
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	56.422
. . . . . 10 P. M.	51.421
. . . of daily extremes,	54.335
. . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	53.921
. . . 4 daily observations,	54.128

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 58)	29.737
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 58)	29.745
. . both (temp. of mer. 58)	29.741

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	18.968
. . . 10 P. M.	8.281
. . . both,	13.624
Rain in inches,	3.566
Evaporation in ditto,	1.605
Fair days 18; rainy days 14,	32
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	9
. . from E. of meridian, including S.	23

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees
Greatest heat, Sept. 3d,	69,000
Greatest cold, Sept. 13th,	38.000
Highest 10 A. M. Sept. 3d,	64.000
Lowest ditto, Sept. 14th,	51.000
Highest 10 P. M. Sept. 16th,	59.000
Lowest ditto, Sept. 14th,	44.500

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. Sept. 5th,	30.090
Lowest ditto, Aug. 26th,	28.905
Highest 10 P. M. Sept. 14th,	30.050
Lowest ditto, Aug. 25th,	28.980

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. August 20th,	32.000
Lowest ditto, August 24th,	4.000
Highest 10 P. M. August 20th,	23.000
Lowest ditto, August 25th,	0.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, August 25th,	1.120
Least ditto, August 27th,	0.010
Greatest mean daily evap. 17th to 20th Aug.	0.078
Least ditto, 6th to 10th Sept.	0.038

General character of the period: first half cloudy and wet; last half dry and warm, with foggy nights.

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METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Calton hill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day, at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

	Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.		Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Aug. 16	M. 58	29.315	M. 61	W.	Cloudy.	Sept. 1	M. 56	29.611	M. 58	S. W.	Clear day.
	E. 54	.250	E. 59				E. 55	.755	E. 57		
17	M. 51	.120	M. 56	W.	Showers.	2	M. 56	.750	M. 59	S. W.	Clear fore. dull after.
	E. 51	.428	E. 57				E. 56	.766	E. 59		
18	M. 52	.495	M. 58	Cble.	Fair.	3	M. 60	.575	M. 61	S. W.	Warm fore. rain after.
	E. 52	.299	E. 56				E. 61	.606	E. 65		
19	M. 54	.265	M. 58	Cble.	Fair.	4	M. 56	.694	M. 62	S. W.	Shwry fore.
	E. 54	.286	E. 59				E. 52	.854	E. 57		
20	M. 54	.550	M. 58	Cble.	Rain.	5	M. 52	.946	M. 56	S. W.	Warm.
	E. 50	.617	E. 55				E. 51	.854	E. 57		
21	M. 50	.778	M. 56	N. E.	Fair.	6	M. 55	.686	M. 58	S. W.	Slight shws.
	E. 51	.842	E. 58				E. 53	.698	E. 57		
22	M. 52	.842	M. 58	N. W.	Fair.	7	M. 50	.905	M. 54	Calm.	Shwy morn.
	E. 55	.855	E. 59				E. 54	.815	E. 57		
23	M. 53	.775	M. 58	Cble.	Cloudy.	8	M. 52	.753	M. 57	Calm.	Misty.
	E. 52	.732	E. 57				E. 57	.716	E. 50		
24	M. 55	.661	M. 57	Cble.	Rain.	9	M. 51	.909	M. 58	Cble.	Warm.
	E. 55	.491	E. 58				E. 51	.928	E. 57		
25	M. 51	.210	M. 55	Cble.	Showers.	10	M. 53	.811	M. 58	Cble.	Clear.
	E. 50	.868	E. 55				E. 57	.778	E. 61		
26	M. 51	.711	M. 55	Cble.	Rain with Thunder.	11	M. 58	.778	M. 60	Calm.	Dull, warm.
	E. 51	.891	E. 57				E. 58	.756	E. 61		
27	M. 51	29.100	M. 55	Cble.	Rain.	12	M. 59	.475	M. 61	S. E.	Rain after.
	E. 50	319	E. 55				E. 50	.454	E. 58		
28	M. 51	.450	M. 54	N. E.	Showers.	13	M. 49	.740	M. 55	W.	Frost morn. showr. even.
	E. 50	.450	E. 53				E. 54	.807	E. 59		
29	M. 49	.450	M. 53	N. E.	Rain.	14	M. 47	.842	M. 54	Cble.	Frost. morn. warm. after.
	E. 50	.589	E. 52				E. 49	.842	E. 57		
30	M. 51	.585	M. 54	E.	Fair.	15	M. 51	.911	M. 55	S.	Ditto.
	E. 51	.641	E. 54				E. 57	.848	E. 60		
31	M. 56	.466	M. 56	Cble.	Showers.						
	E. 55	.559	E. 58								

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

THE fine weather, which set in with the commencement of this month, has continued with little or no interruption ever since, and a more favourable harvest season, so far as it has gone, has seldom occurred in this country. Reaping has made some progress in all the lowlands of Scotland; and in the higher and later districts, all sorts of grain are hastening towards a state of ripeness, and promise to dispel the fears which were so generally entertained at the date of our last Report. In the South, the fields are already cleared in the more early situations, and both the quantity and quality of the produce are represented as equal to that of good years. Prices have accordingly continued to decline; and now that new wheat appears in the market, the old, of inferior quality, is almost unsaleable.—All other crops have also been greatly benefited by the favourable change of the weather: Hops, in particular, are found to be much more productive than they were expected to be. Potatoes are not only abundant, but of excellent quality, and have been selling in the Edinburgh market for some weeks past much lower than usual for the season. It is understood that more than the ordinary breadth of land is at present under this crop.—The following article, taken from a contemporary journal, we shall submit to the consideration of our agricultural readers; and if they can contrive to make their potatoes root as well without the stalks as they are said to do in France, the discovery (taking it for granted that the experiments are accurately reported) must be esteemed of very great importance—as a potatoe crop would thus be rendered of nearly five times its present value.—*September* 22.

AGRICULTURE EXTRAORDINARY.

"*A new Product from Potatoes.*—An apothecary of Amiens has just obtained a new and very lucrative product from potatoes, by burning the stalks and leaves of the plant to extract the potash, which it contains in abundance. This method consists in cutting the plants just when the flower begins to wither, at which time the stalk is in full vigour. He cuts them five inches from the ground, with a very sharp instrument. The stumps left soon push forth new shoots, which suffice to bring the roots to maturity. The plants cut down are left upon the field eight days, to dry them properly. They are then burnt, as the manufacturers of soda burn the kali, in a hole five feet in diameter and two feet deep, washing the ashes, and evaporating the lye. By this process 2500 lbs. weight of the salt is obtained per acre. The author of this process calculates, that an acre of potatoes, deducting the expences of cultivation, will produce potatoes to the value of 225 francs; and in salt, deducting the expences of manufacturing, 816 francs—in all, 1041 francs."

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CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817.	Wheat. Boll	Wheat. Prices	Wheat. Av. pr	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Quar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck.	1817.	Oatmeal. Boll	Oatmeal. Peck.	Ba. & Pmeal Bolls.	
		s. s.	s. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.			s. d.		s. d.
Aug. 27	389	28 50	39 8	— —	28 36	27 31 0	14	12	Aug. 26	607	2 1	98	1 5
Sept. 3	457	21 45	36 11	— —	28 31	27 31 0	14	8	Sept. 2	427	2 0	93	1 4
10	222	24 48	34 7	31 39	26 32	27 31 0	14	10	9	109	1 11	102	1 4
17	132	24 48	38 11	30 37	24 31	27 31 0	13	8	16	321	1 10	76	1 4

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	Wheat, 240 lbs. For. red.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Oats, 264 lbs. Scots.	Oats, 264 lbs. Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Barley, 320 lbs. Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stir. Meal.	Oatmeal 140 lbs.	Flour, 280 lbs.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Aug. 27	48 55	46 52	50 60	30 35	28 36	34 37	32 46	30 38	30 35	30 33	85 90
Sept. 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
10	46 54	40 50	32 60	28 35	28 36	30 34	32 46	30 38	28 34	30 33	85 90
17	44 48	28 44	— —	28 31	28 36	32 36	32 36	30 34	28 34	30 33	80 85

Hadding ton.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Wheat. Prices.	Wheat. Av pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Aug. 29	708	20 47 0	34 11	— —	30 37	24 32	24 32
Sept. 5	785	17 63 0	31 11	29 33	27 33	25 31	25 31
12	599	17 45 0	29 9	27 32	29 33	26 30	26 30
19	629	14 6 50 0	32 0	21 34	23 30	24 30	24 30

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Oatmeal. Per Peck.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 1	28 6 30 0	2 0
8	27 6 29 6	1 11
15	26 0 28 6	1 10
22	24 0 26 6	1 8

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pol	Oats. Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Beans. Tick.	Pease. Boiling.	Pease. Grey.	Flour, 280lb. Fine.	Flour, 280lb. 2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
Aug. 25	43 104	40 48	28 44	15 39	37 43	40 62	38 56	40 45	42 48	00 80	60 75	14
Sept. 1	45 104	40 45	28 44	15 39	37 43	40 62	38 56	40 50	35 48	75 80	60 75	14
8	40 98	30 35	25 40	14 36	35 40	42 50	38 56	40 50	40 45	75 80	55 70	14
15	40 86	30 35	24 38	13 34	34 38	40 58	36 52	40 50	40 45	75 00	55 70	13

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb	Flour. Irish.	Flour. Amer. 196 lb.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Scots.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Irish.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Aug. 19	6 6 13 6	4 0 5 0	5 6 7 6	35 40	40 60	50 60	00 00	00 00	41 55	44 46	00 00	00
26	6 6 13 9	4 0 5 0	5 0 6 6	35 40	40 60	50 60	00 00	00 00	42 52	44 46	00 00	00
Sept. 2	7 0 14 9	4 0 5 0	5 0 6 6	35 40	45 65	54 64	00 00	00 00	40 42	44 46	00 00	00
9	6 0 12 6	3 6 4 6	5 0 6 0	35 40	40 60	50 60	00 00	00 00	37 48	40 42	00 00	00

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatm. 140lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Aug. 16	86 2	54 11	45 0	34 6	48 6	46 8	40 8
23	85 4	52 11	44 7	35 0	47 10	46 8	41 2
30	82 9	49 11	44 5	34 2	49 0	47 1	40 [illegible]
Sept. 6	83 4	51 4	44 7	34 3	48 4	46 8	40 2

Maritime Districts.

Dts.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
9	87 10	53 4	48 1	33 9	46 8	43 11
16	86 9	53 1	44 4	34 3	45 6	41 9
23	86 4	54 5	46 8	35 4	45 0	44 7
30	83 1	45 9	46 4	34 3	47 9	44 10

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th August.

Wheat, 67s. 1d.—Rye, 66s. 8d.—Barley, 45s.—Oats, 40s. 8d.—Beans, 57s. 11d.—Pease, 53s. 4d.—Oatmeal, 35s. 3d.—Bear or Big, 42s. 2d.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COLONIAL PRODUCE.—*Sugars.*—Since the date of our last Report, the market has been lively, and prices improving. Muscovades have been extensively in demand, and have advanced from 9s. to 10s. per cwt. in the course of the last ten days. During the week ending 16th, it is calculated that above 11,500 casks changed hands. The demand for refined goods, both for shipment and speculation, has been extensive, and an advance of 2s. to 3s. has been realized. The great advance on raw sugars has occasioned the refiners to demand a farther advance, and there are no lumps offering under 115s. Of foreign sugars there are scarcely any for sale; any parcels offering would realize prices 2s. to 3s. higher. The aggregate average of sugar has been taken for the four months preceding the 5th instant; it is 45s. 10¾d.; consequently, the import duty remains at 27s. per cwt. *Coffee.*—The prices declined 2s. per cwt. last week. Good ordinary Havannah 92s. and 93s.; common quality sold at 89s. and 89s. 6d. which had formerly brought 92s. and 93s. *Cotton.*—There continues to be great speculation in Bengal cotton; above 5000 bags were purchased last week, chiefly, it is believed, for re-sale; the prices 12d. to 14d. The imports during August into London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, were 35,592 bags, being 1627 bags more than in August last year. The *Rum* market has been heavy, and prices of Leewards 1d. lower; Jamaica without variation. *Tea.*—A sale commenced at the India House on the 2d, and is not yet finished; prices have gone higher; the Boheas 1d.; Congous 1d. to 2d.; and Hysons 3d. to 4d. *Indigo.*—There are purchasers of last East India parcels, at 1s. per lb. premium on the sale prices; the holders generally are asking 15d. per lb. In *Spices* there is still no variation in price. *Tobacco.*—There is no general demand. Several orders for export, but limited as to price. A cargo of Virginia has been purchased at 51s. per 100 lb. manifest weight.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—There has been a great depression in the prices of tallow, and the market heavy. The prices of hemp and flax cannot be stated at any alteration. *Hops.*—The prices declined L. 2 to L. 3 last week, the crop being much greater than was expected. The duty, which had been laid at L. 45,000, is now estimated at above L. 95,000. *Brandy* and *Geneva* continue without variation.

British Manufactures.—We continue to notice, with pleasure, the most cheering reports from all quarters of every branch of our domestic industry. Most of our workmen are now in full employment, and wages are gradually improving. A considerable manufacturer, who, in one article alone, paid last year duties to the amount of L. 10,000 in the ten weeks following the 1st of July, has this year paid in the same period above L. 13,600; and we have reason to believe that the demand for woollens, linens, and cottons, taking them together, has been augmented in at least the same proportion. A letter from New York, speaking of the arrival there of an American vessel from England, states, that there was nothing on board but English manufactures and other stuffs. The quantity of cotton spun in Scotland this year is supposed to be a tenth more than in any former year. During the last three weeks, cotton yarn has advanced in Glasgow fully 7½ per cent. In short, the iron, woollen, cotton, leather, soap, and candle manufactures, are all increasing; and almost every loom and factory in the kingdom employs more men, or gives them higher wages, than it did six months ago.—*September* 16.

Course of Exchange, Sept. 16.—Amsterdam, 38 : 0 B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 8. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Hamburgh, 35 : 2 : 2½ U. Paris, three days sight, 24 : 40 U. Altona, 35 : 3 : 2½ U. Dublin, 9½.

Prices of Gold and Silver, per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, £4 : 0 : 0. Foreign gold, in bars, £4 : 0 : 0. Silver, in bars, standard, £0 : 5 : 3.

Premiums of Insurance at Lloyd's.—Guernsey or Jersey, 15s. 9d. Cork, Dublin, or Belfast, 15s. 9d. to 20s. Hamburgh, 12s. 6d. Madeira, 20s. to 25s. Jamaica, 40s.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds, from August 18 *to September* 15, 1817.

	Aug. 18th.	25th.	Sept. 1st.	8th.	15th.
Bank stock,	232	232	231	230	—
3 per cent. reduced,	80⅜	81	80⅝	—	—
3 per cent. consols,	78⅝	80¼	79¾	79⅜	79⅝
4 per cent. consols,	97⅝	98¼	98¼	—	—
5 per cent. navy ann.	105⅜	105⅞	105⅞	105⅞	105⅞
Imperial 3 per cent. ann.	78¾	78⅞	79⅛	—	—
India stock,	233	231	230½	229¼	229⅛
—— bonds,	122pr.	123pr.	107pr.	60pr.	86pr.
Exchequer bills, 3¼d.	32pr.	31pr.	26pr.	20pr.	—
Consols for acct.	80⅛	80⅜	80¾	80	80
American 3 per cent.	65	—	—	—	—
—— new loan, 6 per cent.	103¼	—	—	—	108
French 5 per cents.	60fr. 75c.	68½fr.	68fr. 40c.	68fr. 45c.	69fr. 65c.

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PRICES CURRENT.—Sept. 13.

	Leith.	Glasgow.	Liverpool.	per
Sugar, *Musc.*				
B. P. Dry Brown, . . .	78 @ —	77 @ 81	77 @ 80	cwt.
Mid. good, and fine mid.	80 86	81 90	81 89	
Fine and very fine, . .	88 96	— —	90 94	
Refined, Double Loaves, . . .	155 160	— —	— —	
Powder ditto, ...	126 128	— —	— —	
Single ditto, ...	122 124	— 122	122 126	
Small Lumps, ...	115 118	114 116	123 126	
Large ditto, ...	114 116	112 114	115 121	
Crushed Lumps, ...	70 72	68 70	70 71	
Molasses, British, ...	40 —	38 40	40 —	
Coffee, *Jamaica*,				
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 93	87 93	83 90	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	93 106	94 105	91 108	
Dutch, Triage and very ord. .	72 82	— —	76 84	
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 92	— —	86 92	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	92 104	— —	94 105	
St Domingo, ...	— —	90 93	86 92	
Pimento (in Bond), ...	8½ 9	8½ 9	9 9¼	lb.
Spirits, Jamaica Rum, 16 O. P.	3s 6d 3s 8d	3s 6 3s 8d	3s 5 3s 7	gall.
Brandy, ...	7 6 7 9	— —	— —	
Geneva, ...	3 10 4 0	— —	— —	
Grain Whisky, ...	7 0 7 3	— —	— —	
Wines, Claret, 1st Growths, .	45 50	— —	— —	hhd.
Portugal Red, ...	38 45	— —	— —	pipe.
Spanish White, ...	30 46	— —	— —	butt.
Teneriffe, ...	30 35	— —	— —	pipe.
Madeira, ...	60 70	— —	— —	
Logwood, Jamaica, ...	£7 £8	£7 10 £8 0	£8 10 £8 15	ton.
Honduras, ...	8 9	8 0 —	9 0 9 10	
Campeachy, ...	9 9 10	8 0 9 0	9 10 10 10	
Fustic, Jamaica, ...	12 13	12 10 13 0	11 0 14 0	
Cuba, ...	16 —	— —	16 10 17 10	
Indigo, Caraccas fine, ...	9s 6d 11s 6d	8s 6d 9s 6d	9s 0 11s 6	lb.
Timber, American Pine, . .	2 0 2 3	— —	2 2 2 3	foot.
Ditto Oak, ...	4 6 5 0	— —	— —	
Christiansand (duties paid),	2 2 2 3	— —	— —	
Honduras Mahogany, .	0 11 1 1	0 10 1 8	1 0 1 1	
St Domingo ditto, . .	— —	1 2 3 0	2 0 2 6	
Tar, American, ...	— —	— —	15 0 —	brl.
Archangel, ...	19 20	— —	19 0 20	
Pitch, Foreign, ...	14 —	— —	— —	cwt.
Tallow, Russia Yellow Candle,	66 —	66 —	71 —	
Home melted, ...	68 —	— —	— —	
Hemp, Riga Rhine, ...	£44 —	£43 £44	£45 —	ton.
Petersburgh Clean, . .	43 —	41 42	44 —	
Flax, Riga Thies. and Druj. Rak.	68 —	— —	— —	
Dutch, ...	50 120	— —	— —	
Irish, ...	52 53	— —	— —	stone
Mats, Archangel, ...	£6 0 £6 6	— —	— —	100
Bristles, Petersburgh Firsts,	16 10 £17	— —	— —	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl, . .	63s —	— —	— —	
Montreal ditto, ...	64s 66s	60s 62s	64s 65s	
Pot, ...	50s 52s	45s 46s	47s 0 50s 6	
Oil, Whale, ...	44s 45s	45 46	— —	tun.
Cod, ...	55 (p. brl.) —	— —	Uncertain.	
Tobacco, Virginia fine, . . .	10 10½	10½ 11	0 8½ 0 9½	lb.
middling, .	9 9½	9½ 10	0 6 0 6½	
inferior, .	8 8½	8 9	0 5 —	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia, . .	— —	1 8 1 9½	1 7½ 1 10½	
Sea Island, fine, . . .	— —	2 6 2 8	2 6 2 8	
good, . . .	— —	2 5 2 6	2 3 2 5½	
middling, .	— —	2 3 2 4	1 11 2 2	
Demerara and Berbice, .	— —	1 10 2 0	1 10 2 2½	
West India, ...	— —	1 10 2 0	1 9 1 10	
Pernambuco, ...	— —	2 1 2 2	2 2½ 2 3	
Maranham, ...	— —	2 0 2 4	2 1 2 2	

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ALPHABETICAL LIST of ENGLISH BANKRUPTCIES, announced between August 16 and September 15, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Ashmead, T. Bristol, haberdasher
Best, J. Birmingham, pocketbook-maker
Bell, G. London, merchant
Betts, J. T. London, rectifying distiller
Booth, J. and E. Caunce, Corlay, spirit-dealers
Booth, G. London, ship-owner
Bloomfield, J. Commercial Road, plumber
Coulter, J. Chatham, carpenter
Cozens, W. Kensington, linen-draper
Daman, T. Teddington, farmer
Dauncey, J. Baltonsbury, cattle-dealer
Fry, E. London, upholsterer
Francis, J. Hundson, corn-factor
Frisby, R. Leicester, horse-dealer
Glasson, R. Graisbeck, butter-dealer
Haynes, M. S. London, wine-dealer
Hurdis, R. Oxford, cordwainer
Houghton, H. Warton, dealer
Hoyles, T. Nottingham, hosier
James, R. Bailth, iron-monger
Jackson, W. and W. Kelly, Shepton-Mallet, grocers
Irwin, T. Chatham, merchant
Lansdell, J. Jun. Bexhill, farmer
Lewis, E. Llanbister, farmer
Mayor, J. London, merchant
Mereweather, W. Arborfield, timber-merchant
Mallins, J. Emmington, Oxford, dealer
Nichols, T. and J. Marlow, Birmingham, leather-sellers
Parker, W. Leeds, merchant
Perkins, J. Coventry, doctor of physic
Pierce, W. Benthall, potter
Parkes, B. Birmingham, wire-worker
Rankine, D. and J. Wilson, Cambden Town, merchants
Russell, D. Downham, victualler
Reeks, W. Jun. Wimborne Minster, tanner
Ripley, J. Lancaster, merchant
Renton, M. London, saddler
Spink, H. Westminster, smith
Shaw, R. H. Liverpool, merchant
Stead, G London, cheese-monger
Taylor, J. Gosport, pawnbroker
Tompson, J. Atherston, linen-draper
Tory, E. Christ-Church, Southampton, grocer
Treharne, E. Llandarog, dealer
Tuckett, P. D. and W. Bristol, wholesale grocers
Weale, W. Birmingham, brazier
Withers, J. Bristol, hat-manufacturer
Yeo, R. Bristol, hat-manufacturer

ALPHABETICAL LIST of SCOTCH BANKRUPTCIES, announced between August 15 and September 15, 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Easton, J. Edinburgh, merchant
Gillan, J. Peterhead, merchant
Harvey, T. Glasgow, merchant
Hyslop, W. Maxwellton, corn-merchant
Johnston, J. Glasgow, tanner
Largie, J. Johnshaven, ship-owner
Oliver, P. New Castletown, ship-owner
Pringle, A. Coldstream, merchant
Reid, J. Thurso, writer, &c.
Ross, J. Inverness, coal and wood-merchant

DIVIDENDS.

Burnett, W. Leith, merchant; by the Trustee, Parliament Stairs, Edinburgh, 10th October
Easson, J. Ferry-Port-on-Craig, ship-owner; by R. Millar, Jun. merchant, Dundee, 3d October.
Eddie, T. and Co. Forres, merchants; by J. Cumming, agent for the British Linen Company there, 17th October
Kennedy, W. Annan, merchant; by James Rutherford, accountant there, 20th September
Muirhead, J. Glasgow, merchant; by H. Wardrop, 44, Argyle Street there, 13th October
Petrie, J. Arbroath, merchant; by Alexander Mann, merchant there, 14th October

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

August 2. At Berlin, the Princess William of Prussia, sister-in-law to the King, a son.

3. Her Imperial Highness the Archduchess Charles of Austria, a son.

7. At Bowscar, Cumberland, the lady of Lieut.-Col. Youngston, a son and heir.

12. At his house in London, the lady of Count Jules de Polignac, a son.

15. At Framlington, Norfolk, Mrs Rigby, four living children, three boys and a girl. Dr Rigby (the father) is a great-grandfather.

17. At Caverhills, the lady of James Burnett, younger of Barns, a son.

18. At Linslade House, Buckinghamshire, Lady Jane Pym, a daughter.

— The lady of the Rev. Sir Charles Anderson, Bart. a daughter.

— At Kilkenny, the lady of Major Morrison, 7th dragoon guards, a son.

20. Lady Dunbar of Boath, a daughter.

21. The Queen of Spain, a daughter.

— At Quebec, the lady of Major George Henderson, royal engineers, a son.

22. At Rochsoles House, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Gerard of Rochsoles, a daughter.

23. At Combermere Abbey, Cheshire, Lady Elizabeth Keith Heathcote, a daughter, who died two days after.

— The wife of James Bond, jun. a chairman, in Lampard's Buildings, Bath, three children, two boys and a girl.

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Maitland of Eccles, a son.

— At Castle Guthrie, the lady of Thomas Mylne, Esq. of Mylnefield, a son.

— The Lady Francis Cole, a son, at the house of her father, the Earl of Malmesbury, in Hill Street, London.

— In George's Square, Edinburgh, Mrs Folliott Baugh, a daughter.

— The lady of Captain Brodie, Royal Scots, a son.

25. The lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Black, a son.

— At Durie, the lady of C. M. Christie, Esq. a son.

26. At Granton House, Mrs Jardine of

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Granton, a son and heir to her lands of Granton and others.

27. At Burwood House, the Right Hon. Lady Lovaine, a son.

28. At Edinburgh Mrs Fergusson of Baledmund, a daughter.

31. At Malines, the lady of Archibald Macnab, Esq. of Macnab, a son.

September 3. At Hillsborough, the Marchioness of Downshire, a daughter.

5. In London, the lady of Admiral Sir J. Beresford, Bart. a daughter.

7. At Exeter, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, of the Inniskilling Dragoons, a daughter.

8. At Fogorigg, Mrs Bird, a daughter.

— In George Street, Edinburgh, the lady of John Mansfield, Esq. a son.

9. At Wertwood, near Southampton, the lady of Rear-Admiral Otway, a daughter.

— At Broomhall, the Countess of Elgin, a daughter.

10. In Edinburgh Castle, the lady of Major Graham, 88th regiment, a son.

— In George Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Hagart of Bantaskine, a daughter.

— In Queen Street, Edinburgh, the lady of Robert Abercrombie, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Lately—Her Highness the Archduchess Frances, Duchess of Modena, a daughter.

At Cork, the lady of Colonel Douglas, 97th regiment, a son.

At Aspley Hall, Notts, the lady of H. Willoughby, Esq. M. P. a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 18. At Leith, James Shirreff, jun. Esq. merchant, Leith, to Miss Jess Millar, second daughter of Archibald Millar, Esq. merchant there.

31. The Duke of Saxe Cobourg, brother of Prince Leopold, to the Princess Louisa of Saxe Gotha.

August 6. At Edinburgh, Mr Henry Spears, Auchtertool, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late William Dawson, Esq. of Graden.

8. Martin John West, Esq. to the Right Hon. Lady Maria Walpole, second daughter of the Earl of Orford.

12. His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, to her Highness the Princess Maria, daughter of the Landgrave Frederick of Hesse.

— At Lambeth Church, near London, William Sibbald, M. D. Surgeon to the Forces in the Isle of France, to Euphemia Anna Amelia Wright, only daughter of the late Dr John Wright of Oporto.

13. At Dublin, G. Wm. Hamilton Rowan, Esq. Captain in the R. N. and C. B. eldest son of A. Hamilton Rowan, Esq. of Killileagh, in the county of Down, to Miss Catharine Cockburn, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-General Cockburn of Rutland Square, and of Manganna, county of Dublin.

14. At Kinchyle, by the Rev. J. M'Kilhean, Donald Kennedy, Esq. R. N. to Helen, only daughter of John Clark, Esq. late of Demerara.

18. At Edinburgh, James Bridges, Esq. writer to the signet, to Jane, youngest daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, of the Royal Marines.

— At Strathendry, Andrew Clephane, Esq. advocate, to Anna Maria, second daughter of Robert Douglas, Esq. late Lieutenant-Colonel 58th regiment of foot.

19. At Glasgow, John Greenshields, Esq. late of Quebec, to Miss Margaret Inglis Dale, eldest daughter of James Dale, Esq. merchant.

— At Inverary, Captain Donald Campbell, Royal Navy, to Isabella, daughter of John Campbell, Esq. of Craignure.

— At Culblair, near Inverness, the Rev. Charles Ross Matheson, minister of Kilmuir Easter, to Caroline, youngest daughter of Colin Shaw, Esq.

20. At Edinburgh, Gavin Alston, Esq. W S. to Jane Thomson, only daughter of Captain Thomson, Royal Navy.

21. At Eglinton Castle, Richard A. Oswald, Esq. of Auchencruive, to the Right Hon. Lady Lilias M'Queen.

24. At Montrose, William Mowbray, Esq. merchant in Leith, to Miss M. M. Chalmers, eldest daughter of the Rev. William Chalmers of Auchtergavon.

26. At Port-Glasgow, Mr James Dunlop, merchant, Glasgow, to Marianne, only daughter of the late Andrew Macmillan, Esq. merchant, Port-Glasgow.

— At Grange House, George Thorburn, Esq. merchant, Leith, to Anne, daughter of Robert Forrester, Esq. Treasurer, Bank of Scotland.

— At Edinburgh, the Rev. Walter Dunlop, Dumfries, to Miss Janet M'Lean, daughter of the late Daniel M'Lean, Esq. Supervisor of Excise.

27. At East Connage, near Fort George, Kenneth Mackenzie, Esq. of Dundonnell, to Isabella Colina, daughter of James Roy, Esq. Surgeon to the Forces.

30. At Aberdeen, Mr Johnston, of the Aberdeen Bank, to Euphemia, daughter of the late Forres Dougal, Esq. of Portsmouth, Virginia, North America.

Sept. 1. At Bath, Richard Napier, Esq. son of the late Colonel Napier, to Mrs W. Staples, eldest daughter of Sir James Stewart of Fortstewart, county of Donegal, Ireland, Bart.

4. At Eskmills, near Edinburgh, Mr Ainslie, brewer, Hawick, to Jessy Pringle, daughter of Mr Pringle, late tenant in Easterstead, Roxburghshire.

— At London, Thomas Jones Howell, Esq. of Prinknash Park, in the county of Gloucester, to Susanna Maria Macleod, eld-

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est daughter of the late Alexander Hume, Esq. of Harris.

5. At London, James Maxwell, Esq. of Kirkconnel, stewartry of Kirkcudbright, to Dorothy, only daughter of William Witham, Esq. of Gray's Inn.

8. At Edinburgh, Lieutenant-Colonel Burton, to Miss Eliza Holland, niece of Colonel E. Walker, Holland House, Newington.

— At Kirkcaldy, Mr Henry Charles Frederick Johnston, of Shoreditch, London, to Miss Mary Ann Hammond of Kirkcaldy.

— At Dunino Manse, Fifeshire, Charles Roger, Esq. Dundee, to Anne, daughter of the late John Cruikshank, Esq. of the Island of St. Vincent.

— At Annanhill, Robert Buchanan, Esq. merchant in Glasgow, to Miss Margaret Dunlop, daughter of the late William Dunlop, Esq. of Annanhill.

9. At Glasgow, John May, Esq. merchant there, to Mary Lion, eldest daughter of John Alston of Westertown, Esq.

11. At London, John Jones, Esq. of Llanarth Court, in Monmouthshire, to Lady Harriet Plunkett, only daughter of the Earl of Fingal.

Lately—At Edinburgh, James Ochterlony Lockhart Mure, Esq. of Livingston, to Miss Margaret Learmonth of Parkhall.

Sir Francis Ford, Bart. to Eliza, only surviving daughter of Henry Brady, Esq. of Limerick, deceased.

At Ayr, Lieutenant Murray, 91st regiment of foot, to Frances, only daughter of the late William Wallace of Sauchrie, Esq.

At Aylesbury, Bucks, William Lake, Esq. aged 78, to Elizabeth, only daughter of Richard Norris, Esq. a beautiful and accomplished young lady of 18, both of that place.

At Gainford, Hay Clephane, Esq. of the Hon. East India Company's civil service, to Jane, widow of the late Colonel Burnaby Poles.

DEATHS.

January 25. At Meerat, East Indies, Mrs Bruton, wife of Major Bruton, of his Majesty's 8th Light Dragoons.

February. At Ceylon, William Orr, Esq. of the civil service there, eldest son of the late Patrick Orr, Esq. of Bridgeton.

June 17. At Nassau, New Providence, the Rev. John Stephen, LL.D. Rector of Christ Church, and Chaplain to his Majesty's Forces in the Bahama Islands.

25. At Montreal, Canada, Mr Thomas Webster, second son of the late Thomas Webster, Esq. of Balkeithly.

30. At Athens, aged 24, of a fever occasioned by fatigue in the too ardent pursuit of knowledge, and rendered fatal by the extreme heat of the climate, Benjamin Gott, jun. second son of Benjamin Gott, Esq. of Leeds.—His remains rest in the Temple of Theseus, close by those of the lamented Tweddell.

July 11. At Kingston, Jamaica, of the endemial fever, Major John Lee, of the Royal Scots, senior Aid-de-Camp to Major-General Conran, commanding his Majesty's forces on that island.

13. Mr William Henry Paulson, Midshipman of his Majesty's ship Queen Charlotte. He, with eight seamen, all volunteers, were upset in a galley, in a gale, off Sidmouth, whilst employed in the service for the prevention of smuggling, when, melancholy to relate, being a mile from the shore, and the sea running very high, all perished!

17. At Glen Street, Kilmarnock, William Stevenson, aged 87 years. He was originally from Dunlop, and bred a mason; but, during many of the latter years of his life, he wandered about as a common beggar. Stevenson was much afflicted, during the last two years of his life, with the stone. As his disease increased, he was fully aware of his approaching dissolution, and for this event he made the following extraordinary preparation:—He sent for a baker, and ordered twelve dozen of burial cakes, and a great profusion of sugar biscuits, together with a corresponding quantity of wine and spirituous liquors. He told the baker, that if this quantity was not sufficient, he should provide more, as nothing but whole cakes were to be served about at his funeral. He next sent for the joiner, and ordered a coffin decently mounted, with particular instructions that the wood should be quite dry, and the joints firm, and impervious to water. The grave-digger was next sent for, whom he enjoined to make his grave roomy, and in a dry comforable corner; and he might rest assured that he would be well rewarded for his care and trouble. Having made these arrangements, in a few hours afterwards, in the full exercise of his mental powers, but in the most excruciating agonies, he expired. A neighbour, and a man of business, were immediately sent for to examine and seal up his effects. The first thing they found was a bag, containing large silver pieces, such as crowns, half-crowns, and dollars, to a large amount. In a corner was secreted, amongst a vast quantity of musty rags, a great number of guineas, and seven shilling pieces. In his trunk was found a bond for L. 300, and other bonds and securities to a very considerable amount. In all, the property amounted to L. 900.

August 5. At Arbroath, Mr David Balfour, late Provost of that burgh.

— At his house in Stirling, Robert Loudon, Esq. late Captain in the Forfarshire militia, much regretted by his friends and acquaintance.

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9. At Dessau, in his 77th year, the reigning Duke, Leopold Frederick Francis, after a few days illness.

— At Wellerstein, the Duchess Dowager D'Oettingen Wellerstein, of a fit of apoplexy.

10. At Portsoy, James Grant, Esq. sometime of Montreal, North America.

— At Doonfoot, Mr Charles Abercromby, civil engineer.

11. At London, Major-General Sir Montagu R. Burgoyne, Bart.

— At Cheltenham, William Mackintosh, Esq. of Balnespick.

13. At Stonehaven, Helen Macdonald, niece and representative of Angus of Keppoch of 1715, and relict of William Paull, Aberdeen.

14. At Darlington, Isabella Burnsides, aged 104 years.

16. At Hartree House, Colonel Alexander Dickson of Hartree.

— At Nairn, Archibald Baillie, Esq second son of the late Colonel Baillie of Dunean.

17. At Burntsfield Links, Miss Catharine Forbes Montgomerie.

— At Edinburgh, Mr Richard Crichton, architect.

19. At London, Miss Margaret Mure, daughter of the deceased Baron Mure.

20. At Stubbington, Hants, at the advanced age of 84, Mrs St John, aunt of Sir Henry St John Mildmay, Bart.

— At Kerschill, Mrs Christian Rattray, wife of Alexander Ramsay, Esq. banker, Falkirk.

— At Setonhill, East Lothian, Mr Peter Bairnsfather, jun. farmer.

— At Delbandy, in Glenlivat, parish of Inveraven, Banffshire, John Stewart, messenger at arms, at the advanced age of 101.

23. At Millhill, Musselburgh, Charles Stewart, Esq. formerly Commander of the Hon. East India Company's ship Airly Castle.

— At Edinburgh, in the 74th year of his age, Mr John Ballantyne, late merchant in Kelso.

— At Dornoch, at the advanced age of 96 years, John Barclay, Esq. Dean of Guild. He was on the magistracy of that ancient burgh for the last 47 years.

24. At Herne Hill, near Dulwich, the celebrated singer and actress, Signora Storace.

— Three days after giving birth to a daughter, Emma, the wife of Frederick W. Campbell, Esq. of Barbreck, North Britain, and of Englefield-green, Surrey.

25. At Edinburgh, Mr Adam Brooks, merchant there.

— At York, aged 50, Major James Murray Grant, late Assistant Inspector-General of the Barrack Department.

26. At Glasgow, the Rev. Mr William Thomson, minister of Ochiltree.

26. At Amsterdam, the Dowager Marchioness of Sligo. Her Ladyship was born on the 9th of December 1767, and was the youngest daughter and co-heiress of the late gallant Earl Howe. In 1787 she was married to the late Marquis of Sligo, by whom she had a son, the present Marquis. To her second husband, Sir William Scott, she was married about five years since. Her Ladyship was a woman of much literary accomplishment.

— At Lurgan Green, Ireland, Mr Patrick Coffey, jun. He and two of his sisters (Mrs Ward and Miss Mary Coffey) fell victims to the typhus fever in the course of a few days.

27. In London, the Right Hon. Frances Lady Redesdale, in her 51st year. Her Ladyship was the daughter of the late Earl of Egmont, sister to the present Lord Arden, and the late lamented Right Hon. Spencer Perceval.

28. At Airdrie, parish of Kirkbean, Mr Robert Newall, aged 67.

— At Aberdeen, John Low, Esq. advocate, in the 49th year of his age.

29. At Clontarf, near Dublin, the Hon. Robert Henry Southwell, late of Castle Hamilton, county Cavan, and formerly Lieutenant-Colonel of the 8th dragoons. He was only brother of the late, and uncle of the present Viscount Southwell.

30. At Auchnefauld, in Perthshire, Elizabeth Murray, in the 116th year of her age. She was in good health, and enjoyed the use of all her faculties till within a few days of her death.

— At Brackley, Kinross-shire, Alexander Burt, Esq. late of Jamaica, sincerely regretted.

— At Dublin, William Ridgeway, Esq. barrister-at-law, to the inconsolable grief of a widow and seven children. This gentleman fell a victim to a typhus fever, caught by the excessive and suffocating heat of the court-house of Trim, during the trial of Roger O'Connor, Esq.

31. At Marywell Park, by Arbroath, Miss Alison Carnegy, daughter of the late Patrick Carnegy, Esq. of Lower.

— At Twickenham, the Viscountess Howe, aged 75, widow of William Lord Viscount Howe, daughter of the Right Hon. William Conolly of Castletown, in Ireland, by Lady Anne Wentworth, eldest daughter of Thomas Earl of Strafford.

— At Plymouth Dock, Sir John Thomas Duckworth, G. C. B. Admiral of the White Squadron, Commander in Chief at that port, and M. P. for New Romney. He was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue on the 14th February 1799; was made a Vice-Admiral on the 23d April 1804; and Admiral on the 31st July 1810. On the 7th February 1806, he commanded the detachment of seven sail of the line, two frigates and two sloops,

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which engaged, in the bay of St Domingo, a squadron of French ships, consisting of five sail of the line, one, L'Imperiale, a three-decker, two frigates, and a corvette, which he entirely defeated, after a gallant action of two hours; capturing L'Alexandre of 84 guns, Le Jupiter and Le Brave of 74 guns each, and driving on shore L'Imperiale of 120 guns, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Le Seigle, and Le Diomede, of 84 guns, which he afterwards burned. Some years since a pension of L. 1000 per annum was settled on him for his services. His only son, Colonel Duckworth, was killed in one of the engagements under the Duke of Wellington, in Spain.

Sept. 1. At Dublin, Mr Justice Osborne. His Lordship fell a victim to the fever which is now raging with such destructive fury throughout the country. The first symptoms of illness appeared just as the circuit, which the learned Judge went, had terminated. He was a very few days unwell, and until Saturday last was not considered to be affected with any thing more dangerous than a slight cold. Judge Osborne fell a victim to his kindness and humanity. His crier had taken ill on circuit, and the worthy Judge took him into his coach, on his return to town.

3. At Dumfries, Miss Laurie of Maxwelltown.

— At Leeds, Mr John Urquhart, merchant, late of Glasgow.

— At his seat of Tonley, in Aberdeenshire, in the 84th year of his age, James Byres, Esq. This venerable gentleman resided long at Rome, which he finally left in 1790. To most of our countrymen who visited that city, and to many foreigners of distinction, he was well known; and was no less respected for his probity, than his society was courted for his learning and taste, and agreeable manner of communicating his knowledge to others.

4. At Sandwich, after a long illness, the consequence of a severe paralytic stroke, which she had 11 years ago, and from which she never recovered, Mrs Judith Harvey, aged 74 years, relict of Captain John Harvey, who fell so distinguished in the memorable 1st of June 1794, whilst commanding his Majesty's ship Brunswick, in the honourable post of Second to Admiral Earl Howe.

— Near Musselburgh, John Wilson, Esq. late solicitor in London.

— At her son's house, Royal Hibernian School, Phœnix-park, near Dublin, after a lingering and agonizingly painful illness of more than eight months, Alicia, wife of Joseph Lefanu, Esq. and sister of the late Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Mrs Lefanu was a lady of genius and literary attainments. She was the author of the comedy of the "*Sons of Erin.*"

5. At Leith, Mr Robert Thomson, merchant there.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Rachel Milne, wife of Robert Rattray, Esq. writer to the signet.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Isabella Monro, relict of Dr Robert Lawson, physician, Edinburgh.

6. At Dumfries, Mrs Janet Paul, aged 80, wife of Mr William Taylor, watchmaker. She was the only surviving sister of the celebrated *Paul Jones.*

— At Bellisle, Mrs Hamilton of Pinmore.

9. At Edinburgh, Forrest Dewar, Esq. surgeon there.

12. At Collylin, New Kilpatrick, Mr Mitchell, farmer.

Lately—At Dunevely, Ireland, nearly 70 years of age, the Rev. George Brydon, the first, and during 40 years, Presbyterian minister of the congregation of Kircubbin.

At Madrid, after a short illness, at the house of her sister, Lady Whittingham, Barbara, the wife of Bartholomew Frere, Esq. his Majesty's Secretary of Embassy at the Ottoman Porte. The marriage had been solemnized by proxy, according to the usual form, but Mr Frere having been detained at Constantinople by the business of the Embassy, during Sir Robert Liston's absence, never had the happiness of seeing her since their union.

Of the typhus fever, prevalent in Ireland, the Rev. Arthur Ford, Protestant clergyman, Downpatrick.

At Apernon, the Marquis of Croismere, in the 100th year of his age.

At Ballachroan, county of Inverness, Mrs Captain Forbes Macdonell, second daughter of the late John M'Pherson, Esq. of Inverhall.

At Llandegai, Carnarvonshire, in the 80th year of his age, Mr William Williams, author of "Observations on the Snowden Mountains," and of many useful and amusing productions in the Welsh language.

In Westmoreland, Sarah Hearn, aged 100 years and seven months. Her husband, who had been married to her upwards of half a century, followed her to the grave at the advanced age of 95.

At Leghorn, near Louth, in Ireland, at the advanced age of 96, William Porteous, who enjoyed his faculties to the last. At his request, a favourite ass, which he had rode to Louth market upwards of 30 years, was shot, and buried at the same time.

George Ramsay and Co. Printers, Edinburgh.

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THE
EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,
AND
LITERARY MISCELLANY,
BEING A NEW SERIES OF
The Scots Magazine.

OCTOBER 1817.

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HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days.	Morn.		Even.		Days.	Morn.		Even.	
Oct.	H.	M.	H.	M.	Nov.	H.	M.	H.	M.
Tu. 21	12	2	12	23	W. 5	11	11	11	38
W. 22	12	41	12	57	Th. 6	12	3	12	28
Th. 23			1	13	Fr. 7	12	51		
Fr. 24	1	30	1	45	Sa. 8	1	14	1	37
Sa. 25	2	0	2	15	Su. 9	2	0	2	23
Su. 26	2	30	2	44	M. 10	2	46	3	7
M. 27	2	59	3	14	Tu. 11	3	31	3	54
Tu. 28	3	28	3	45	W. 12	4	18	4	43
W. 29	4	0	4	17	Th. 13	5	6	5	32
Th. 30	4	37	4	57	Fr. 14	6	0	6	30
Fr. 31	5	20	5	46	Sa. 15	7	2	7	37
Nov.					Su. 16	8	12	8	48
Sa. 1	6	16	6	52	M. 17	9	25	9	59
Su. 2	7	32	8	15	Tu. 18	10	28	10	54
M. 3	8	56	9	37	W. 19	11	21	11	45
Tu. 4	10	11	10	41	Th. 20	12	4	12	24

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Oct. 25. 26 m. past 2 morn.
Last Quarter, Nov. 2. 14 —— 6 morn.
New Moon, —— 9. 39 —— 1 morn.
First Quarter, —— 15. 16 —— 7 after.

TERMS, &c.

Oct. 25. King George III. accession.
Nov. 2. Duke of Kent born.
5. Gunpowder Plot.
8. Princess Augusta born.
11. Martinmas.
12. Court of Session sits.

NOTICE.

The Editors of the EDINBURGH MONTHLY MAGAZINE, *a Work of which the discontinuance has been lately announced, beg leave to intimate, that they are now Editors of the* EDINBURGH MAGAZINE AND LITERARY MISCELLANY. *They are happy in being enabled to state, that they have received the most satisfactory assurances of support, not only from the extensive circle of Literary Friends with whose assistance they planned and successfully carried on their former Publication, but also from a number of other distinguished individuals, who have engaged to contribute their effective aid to this New Series of the earliest and most esteemed Repository of Scottish Literature.*

Edinburgh, October 20, 1817.

*** The Correspondents of the EDINBURGH MAGAZINE AND LITERARY MISCELLANY are respectfully requested to transmit their Communications for the Editors to ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and COMPANY, Edinburgh, or LONGMAN and COMPANY, London, to whom also orders for the Work should be particularly addressed.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

OCTOBER 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE WITCHES OF PITTENWEEM, IN THE COUNTY OF FIFE, ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF LAST CENTURY.

Hard luck, alake! when poverty and eild
Weeds out o' fashion, and a lanely bield,
Wi' a sma' cast o' wiles, should in a twitch
Gie ane the hateful' name—*A wrinkled witch.*
GENTLE SHEPHERD.

THE wishes, and probably still more, the terrors of man, in that rude state of society in which science has not yet begun to trace effects towards their causes in the established laws of nature, seem every where to have laid the foundation of a multiplicity of popular creeds, of which the object is to connect man with mysterious beings of greater power and intelligence than himself. The character which the imagination gave to this intercourse, was the consequence, in some degree, of accidental occurrences, but still more, perhaps, of local circumstances, and of the social condition of the people. The vicissitudes of human life, and of human affairs, however, do not permit the most prosperous people to ascribe pure benevolence to these superior beings; and so much greater is the sensibility of men to painful and disastrous events, and the dread of their recurrence, than to such instances of good fortune as either happen very rarely, or are neutralized by their frequency, that in the superstitions of every age and country, perhaps, the number, and power, and activity, of capricious spirits, or of such as are decidedly hostile to human happiness, will be found to predominate, or to have exerted, at least an equal influence in the common affairs of life with the beneficent.

This propensity to reduce the invisible beings whose power and knowledge were recognised in almost every great event, to the level of men in other respects, naturally led to a belief in their occasional manifestation, both in their own proper form, and in the assumed garb of humanity. It was, however, in every respect desirable that the more immediate intercourse between the worlds of matter and of spirit should be carried on by a chosen few of the human race, to whom their fellow mortals might apply, as to the delegates of invisible power, on every great emergency.—Such seems to have been the origin of oracles and priests, and all the other delusions of paganism, both in ancient and modern times.

The light of Christianity, and the progress of knowledge, which have done so much to rectify the judgment, as well as to purify the heart, by displaying the wisdom and goodness of the Supreme Being, have not yet altogether dispelled the illusions which had possessed the imagination during the infancy and helplessness of rational being. On the contrary, some passages in the Holy Scriptures themselves, though evidently applicable only to the peculiar circumstances of the theocratical government of the Jews, or to the first promulgation of the gospel, have been not only taken in their most literal sense, but held to prove the continued succession, through every age of the world, of a class of human beings endowed with the power of infringing the established laws of nature, and actually in the practice of exercising this power for the most insignificant purposes.

In the records of ignorance and credulity, there is not perhaps a more melancholy proof of the aberration of the human mind than that which is exhibited by the very general belief in witchcraft, which, in this coun-

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try, continued to prevail down to the close of the seventeenth century, and which, even at the present moment, is far from being completely eradicated. The sex, age, and condition of the individuals commonly accused of this crime,—the utter improbability of the accusation itself, and of the overt acts by which it was attempted to prove it,—the horrid means by which confessions were extorted,—and the cruel doom which awaited conviction—do not appear to have ever raised any doubts of the reality of their guilt, and very rarely to have excited in the minds of their judges those feelings of commiseration, which nothing but the greatest superstition has ever been able altogether to repress with the sufferings of the greatest criminal.

But we do not mean at present to enter upon the very extensive field to which these general views would conduct us. It may suffice, on this occasion, merely to notice the law and practice of Scotland in regard to the alleged crime of witchcraft; and then to mark the dawn of improvement in public opinion at the commencement of the eighteenth century, displayed in the case of the witches of Pittenweem in Fifeshire. For our acquaintance with these personages we are chiefly indebted to some curious original documents, and to several very rare tracts, printed at the time when the events they describe had very recently occurred.

It is a singular circumstance in the history of this delusion in Scotland, that the only statute against witchcraft passed so late as in 1563, * a period when the superstition of the dark ages was shaken to its foundation by the spirit of inquiry which, in a few years, led to the complete establishment of the Reformation. It deserves also to be remarked, that the trials for this crime seem to have been most numerous about a hundred years afterwards, * though, during this inter-

* As this remarkable statute, which brought so many innocent beings to an untimely end, is not very long, we shall here make room for it. The reader cannot fail to perceive, on comparing this simple and concise enactment with the elaborate and voluminous acts of the present age, how much the technical part of the science of legislation has been improved in the intermediate period:

"QUEEN MARIE,—*Ninth Parliament*, "*IV of June* 1563.

"73. Anentis Witch-craftes.

"ITEM, For-sa-meikle as the Queenis Majestie, and the three Estaites in this present Parliament, being informed that the heavie and abhominable superstition used be diverse of the lieges of this realme, be using of witch-craftes, sorceris, and necromancie, and credence given thereto in times by-gane, against the law of God: And for avoyding and away-putting of all sik vaine superstition in times to cum; It is statute and ordained be the Queenis Majestie, and the three Estaites foresaidis, that na maner of person nor persones, of quhat-sum-ever estaite, degree, or condition they be of, take upon hand in onie times hereafter, to use onie maner of *witch-craftes*, *sorcerie*, or *necromancie*, nor give themselves furth to have onie sik craft or knawledge theirof, their-throw abusand the people: Nor that na person seik onie help, response, or consultation at onie sik users or abusers foresaidis of *witch-craftes*, *sorceries*, or *necromancie*, under the paine of death, alsweil to be execute against the user, abuser, as the seiker of the response or consultation. And this to bee put to execution be the Justice, Schireffis, Stewards, Baillies, Lordes of Regalities and Royalties, their deputes, and uthers ordinar judges competent within this realme, with all rigour, having power to execute the samen."

It has been doubted whether the framers of this act themselves believed in witchcraft, and whether by denouncing the same heavy penalty against the dupe and the impostor, they ever expected it to be executed at all. The judges and juries, however, never seem to have had any doubts about the matter.

* In the year 1661, the number of commissions upon record for trying persons suspected of *witchcraft* are very considerable; they are,

Jul. 25.—Isobell Johnstoun in Gullan.—Margaret Nisbet in Spott.

Aug. 2.—Katherine Black, Elizabeth Black, Isobell Crocket, in Stirling.

Sept. 6.—Margaret Moffat, Margaret Elliot, George Watson, James Johnston, Elspeth Yester, Margaret Nisbet, all indwellers in the parochin of Spott.—Jean Hunter, Jean Gitgood, Jean Knox, Margaret Howie, Bessie Turnbull, Katherine Johnston, John Harbour, all residenteris within the parochin of Ormiston.—William Hog, Marion Grinlaw, Jean Hewison, Elspeth Haliburton, parish of Nestoun.—Margaret Barton, Isobel Bathgate, in Queensferry,

Sept. 18.—Janet Watsoun, Bessie Moffat, Kathrine Hunter, in Dalkeith.—Ja-

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tal, the nation had not only acquired a thorough conviction of the value of civil and religious liberty, but shed its blood in the most arduous struggles to obtain and secure both, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty and discouragement. If the legal murders which the records of our criminal courts prove to have been committed during this period, had occurred in that comparatively remote age which Shakespeare has penetrated with the light of his genius in his tragedy of *Macbeth*, however much we might lament the infatuation of our forefathers, we should find it less difficult to account for their proceedings. But Sir George Mackenzie, in his "Laws and Customes of Scotland, in matters criminal," so late as 1678, never insinuates a doubt of the reality of withcraft, though he was led to express his strong disapprobation of the forms of trial then in use in a number of instances. On the contrary, indeed, this eminent lawyer stoutly defends the popular belief against the more liberal views of "many lawyers in Holland and elsewhere." The same belief prevailed in England posterior to the middle of the seventeenth century. At the assizes held at Bury St Edmond's for the county of Suffolk, on the 10th March 1664, before Sir Matthew Hale, *Rose Cullender* and *Amy Duny*, widows, were found guilty of witchcraft, "upon a long evidence," and hanged a few days after. * In the absurdity of the accusation, the insufficiency of the evidence, and the iniquity of the verdict,—the unhappy women asserting their innocence in their last moments,—this remarkable trial is in no degree exceeded by any similar one in Scotland.

It was not till 1735, by the 9th Geo. II. c. 5, that prosecutions for witchcraft, and for imputing witchcraft to others, were prohibited; and it does not appear that the wisdom of the legislature in this repeal had been anticipated by the progress of knowledge among the great body of the people, to such an extent as has been sometimes alleged. So late as 1722, a person was brought to the stake in Scotland for the crime of witchcraft, under the authority of the sheriff-depute of the county of Sutherland. † In 1743, a body of dissenters, who have since become numerous and respectable, published an act of their presbytery, in which, among the national sins enumerated as the causes of God's wrath against Scotland, is to be found the repeal of the penal statutes against witches, "contrary to the express law of God;" and the same doctrine is still taught from their pulpits, and firmly believed by the far greater number of their adherents. We happen to know, indeed, that a belief in witches and witchcraft prevails even at this day a-

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net Scott, George Lumsdeall, at Innerleithen.—Isobell Monro, Mary Burges, vagabonds haunting in Strathspey and Murrayshland.

Nov. 7.—Barbra Hood, Helen Belshes, in Yeamouth.—Eupham Adair, Helen Breckenrig, in Crichton.—Margaret Walker, (spouse to William Curry,) Jonet Curry, her dochter, in Pentland.—Isobel Ryrie, in Forfar.—Agness Williamson, in Haddington.

Nov. 19.—Margaret Liddell, Kathrine Key, in Newburgh.—Elspeth Grinlaw, in Queensferry.

Dec. 17.—Helen Cothall, Helen Guthery, Elspeth Guthery, in Forfar.—Isabell Smith, in Atholl.

Who had all confessed themselves guilty of the "abominable cryme of witchcraft, in entering into paction with the devil, renuncing their baptisme," and otherways, &c.

In 1662, the number is still more considerable, but the commissions seem to have been granted under certain qualifications; for instance, *Jun.* 12, 1662. Commission is granted to Sir Archibald Douglas, Sheriff-principal of Roxburgh, and others, "to try and judge Bessie Themson, Malie Johnston, Agnes Quarie, and Malie Turnbull, who have confest themselves to be guilty of witchcraft, with these qualities, That if they shall be found guiltie vpon voluntar confessions, by renuncing of baptisme, paction with the divell, or committing of malifices, without any sort of torture or other indirect meanes used, and that the tyme of thair confessions and pactioning with the divell, they wer of compleat age, sound judgment, nowayes distracted, or under any earnest desire to dy, and reiterat the former confessions made by them judicially; that then, and in those cases, the saids commissioners cause the sentence of death to be execute upon them, and no utherways."

* *Trial of Witches*, &c. taken by a person then attending the Court, printed in 1716.

† Arnot's *Criminal Trials*, p. 412.

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mong the lower orders in Scotland generally, whatever may be their religious persuasion.

In many of our parishes, traditionary tales of witches, and specific instances of their preternatural power, are still current, only a few of which have passed through the press. Of the works on this curious subject, "Satan's Invisible World discovered," by "Master George Sinclar, late Professor of Philosophie at the Colledge of Glasgow," seems to have been received with peculiar favour, the Lords of Council having, by an order, dated at Edinburgh, 26th February 1685, prohibited and discharged all persons "from printing, reprinting, or importing into this kingdome, any copie or copies of the said book, dureing the space of eleven yearis after the date heirof, without license of the author, or his order." The last edition of it which we have seen was printed in 1814; and the editor, without the slightest intimation of any doubts as to the truth of the marvellous narratives it contains, has enriched his work with "some additional relations which have happened in the shire of Renfrew, towns of Pittenweem, Calder, and other places." The Renfrewshire witches, indeed, have been thought to merit the honour of a separate "History," which was published in 1809 by "the Editor of the Paisley Repository." We are sorry that we cannot do as much justice to the old ladies of Pittenweem, who, notwithstanding the very laudable exertions of their minister and magistrates, had the singular good fortune to escape the flames, through the obstinacy of the Privy Council, who could not be prevailed on to bring them to trial. What could be done, however, by these active enemies of the Evil One was not spared. The witches were imprisoned and tortured, and confessed in the usual manner. One of them was starved in prison, and the rabble enjoyed "three hours' sport" in murdering another, by the *permissive power* of the legal guardians of their lives and properties on earth, and of their saintly guide to heaven.*

About the month of March 1704, there lived in the town of Pittenweem a noted witch, Beatrix Layng by name, who came to one Patrick Mortoun, a blacksmith, with an order for some nails, which this person, being otherwise employed at the time, refused to execute. The witch went

* The better educated classes of Scotland seem by this time to have become rather sceptical about the existence of witches. In the records of the burgh of Pittenweem, we find a minute of a meeting, dated 1st June 1704, at which "the minister and some of the elders were present," where a bailie and another member of the town council were "elected and nominat to goe from this burgh to Edinburgh to morrow, and deal with Sir Thomas Moncrief of that ilk, as justiciar within the regality of St Andrews, to grant comissione to some gentlemen and burgesses in this part of the country, for sitting as justices in this burgh, for takeing trial of these persones incarcerat in the tolbooth, as suspect guilty of witchcraft; and if Sir Thomas refuse to make applicatione to the councill, to take such other methods as they shall think fitting for that effect." It was also resolved at the same time to apply "for advice to the presbyterie." Sir Thomas, it would appear, had not given these officious gentlemen much encouragement; for, on the 12th July thereafter, there is another entry in the records, nominating two new commissioners "to consult and advyse with the members of the commission of the General Assembly of the Kirk now sitting at Edinburgh, and crave their concurrence; and also to take the advyse and concurrence of her Majestie's Advocate, and of Sr Robt. Forbes, one of the clerks of her Majestie's Privy Council, and principal agent for the royal burrows, what method and course may be taken in addressing the Privy Councill, for getting these persones put to trial and condign punishment, with all convenient dilligence." On the 20th July, these last commissioners report that the Privy Council had ordained the suspected witches to be transported to Edinburgh and judged there, requiring at the same time information of the names and confessions of the accused, and the witnesses' names who were to be cited. It is possible enough, that a trial on the spot before some "gentlemen and burgesses in this part of the country," would have been more acceptable to these enlightened guardians of the burgh, as they had at first wished; for, either for want of evidence, or on some other account, the witches were not transported to Edinburgh, nor ever brought to trial. On the 12th August, all of them, five in number, were liberated on bail, apparently in consequence of the interference of the "Erle of Bellcarres and Lord Anstruther," commissioners of the Privy Council, with whom the bail bonds were lodged.

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away muttering threats of course, and soon after was detected by the blacksmith in the use of a charm, of which even the literal description is not without its difficulties. "Patrick Mortoun, with another person in company, carrying some fish by the said Beatrix Layng's door, they saw a vessel with water placed at the door, with a *burning* coal in it, upon which he was presently stricken with an impression that it was a charm designed against him; and upon this, a little after, he sickened." * This is the account of the party who had taken so active a concern against the witches, and is given from a pamphlet published in their defence, after their proceedings had drawn upon them the notice of the Privy Council. Convincing, however, as this charm must have been to the magistrates and minister of Pittenweem, as well as to the blacksmith himself, of the *diablerie* of Layng, other proofs were not wanting. The physicians could not understand Mortoun's distemper: At length he was seized with fits; and in due time delated (accused) Layng and a number of other persons as his tormentors, who were forthwith thrown into prison, and subjected to the usual preparatory process of *pricking* or *brodding*, to prevent them from sleeping, and to extort from them a confession of guilt.

"It was upon his (Morton's) accusation allenarly the minister and baillies imprisoned these poor women, and set a guard of drunken fellows about them, who, by pinching and pricking some of them with pins and *elsions*, (awls,) kept them from sleep for several days and nights together; the marks whereof were seen by severals a month thereafter. This cruel usage made some of them learn to be so wise, as acknowledge every question that was asked them; whereby they found the minister and baillies well pleased, and themselves better treated." †

Nothing on this subject of witchcraft has ever appeared more extraordinary than the confessions of the accused themselves. But this wonder must cease, when we know the means by which they were extorted. "Thrusting of pins into the flesh, and keeping the accused from sleep, were the *ordinary* treatment of a witch. But if the prisoner was endued with uncommon fortitude, other methods were used to extort confession. The *boots*, the *capsie-claws*, and the *pilniewinks*, engines for torturing the legs, the arms, and the fingers, were applied to either sex; and that with such violence, that sometimes the blood would have spouted from the limbs. Loading with heavy irons, and whipping with cords, till the skin and flesh were torn from the bones, have also been the adopted methods of torment." *

Of the treatment which the wretched Layng experienced, in consequence of the ridiculous charge we have mentioned, we have some account in a petition which she presented to the Privy Council about a year afterwards, praying for protection against the rabble, who had murdered another woman a few months before, and which detestable outrage does not seem to have had its proper effect upon the darkened intellects of the rulers of that ancient burgh. †

* *A Just Reproof to the False Reports*, &c. printed in 1705.

† *An Answer of a Letter from a gentleman in Fift to a nobleman*, printed 1705.

* Arnot's *Criminal Trials*, p. 413.

† "*Act and Protection to Bettie Laing.*

"*Att the Palace of Holyrudehouse,*
"*May* 1, 1705.

"Anent the supplication given in and presented to his Grace her Maties High Commissioner, and the Lords of her Maties Privy Council, by Bettie Laing, spous to William Brown, tayleor, and late theasurer of the town of Pittenweem; humbly shewing, that the petitioner having met with most cruell and unchristian treatment in the town of Pittenweem, upon no other ground then bare affection of ane Peter Mortoun, a young man in the said town, who being under a natural disease wch had some strange effects upon his body, pretended that the petitioner, and other persons he named, wer witches, and tormented him: Upon this very insufficient ground the petitioner was thrown into the tolbooth of Pittenweem, by the minister and magistrates thereof; and because she would not confess that she was a witch, and in compact with the divell, was tortured by keeping her awake without sleep for fyve days and nights together, and by continual precking her with instruments in the shoulders, back, and thighs, that the blood gushed out in great abundance, so that her lyfe was a burden to her;

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Janet Cornfoot, or Cornfoot, who was afterwards murdered by the rab-

and they urging her continuallie to confess, the petitioner expressed severall things, as they directed her, to be ride of the present torture; and because she afterwards avowed and publictly told, that what she had said to them of her having seen the divell, &c. was lyes and untruths, they put her in the stocks for severall dayes, and then carried her to the thief's holl, and from that they transported her to a dark dungeon, where she was allowed no maner of licht, nor human converse, and in this condition she laye for fyve moneths together; and at last haveing found means to get out of the said dungeon, she wandered about in strange places in the extremity of hunger and cold, tho' she thanked God she had a competency at home, but dared not come near her own house, because of the fury and rage of the people: And the petitioner being willing to undergoe any legall tryall upon the said cryme whereof she was accused, and for denying of which she had been so inhumanly treated: She confidently presumed his Grace and their Lops. would grant her the common benefit of protection to her person till she wer legally convict of crymes rendering her indeserving of it: And this she was necessitat to demand of your Lops. for that she having lately returned to her own house at Pittenweem, expecting to have lived safely and quietly with her husband, the rabble there so menaced and threatened to treat her as they had done Janet Cornfoot a little before, &c. &c. His Grace her Maties High Commissioner, &c. &c. declares the petitioner to be under the protection of the Government; and therefore his Grace and the said Lords appoints and ordains the magistrates of Pittenweem to maintain and defend the petitioner against any tumults and mobbs, insult, and violence that may fall upon or be attempted against her, as they will be answerable," &c. &c. &c.

The magistrates, however, were more careful of their own individual interest than the peace of their burgh, or the lives of their fellow citizens, and seem to have held their clergyman in higher veneration than the Commissioners of the Privy Council. In the burgh records there is the following minute on this occasion:

"*Act anent the Committie of the Privie Counsell, ther tryal of the process anent the Witches.*

"*Undecimo Maij* 1705.

"The which day the ballies and counsell, viz. William Borthwick, &c. (thirteen present) being conveened, the said ballie represented to the counsell, that one the nynth day of Maij instant, the Erle of

ble, was also one of those unhappy persons *delated* by this Mortoun. There was another crime, however, imputed to this woman of a not less extraordinary description. Beatrix Layng, who seems to have been Satan's chief minister in those parts, happened to quarrel with one Alexander Macgregor, a fisherman—about what we are not told—and forthwith the Devil in person, with this Janet Cornfoot, and "several others in company," set upon poor Macgregor in his bed, with the felonious intent of murdering him in his sleep. Macgregor, however, awaking in good time, and wrestling manfully, his infernal majesty was glad to beat a retreat with his baffled troops. The truth of the thing could not possibly be called in question, for it was confessed by two of the hags who had assisted on the occasion;* and at last, it would appear, by Cornfoot herself also. This poor woman, of course, retracted her confession to some gentlemen whom curiosity had induced to visit her in prison, but begged them "for Christ's sake not to tell that she had done so, else she would be murdered." †

She was murdered nevertheless; and with circumstances of such almost incredible barbarity, that we shall give the account in the words of the writer

Bellcarres and Lord Anstruther, two of her Maties most hono^ble Privie Counsell, being commissionat to meet here this day for takeing further triall of the murther of Janet Cornfoot, who confest herself guiltie of witchcraft, and anent the way of the townes procedure ag^st Beatrix Laying, and others, accused for that cryme, the saids Lords requyred that the baillies and whole toune counsell should engage in a bond to protect the said Beatrix Laying ag^t any rabble should assault her. Which they unanimously refused to doe, in respect she may be murthered in the night without their knowledge, and the penalty of the bond being fyve hundreth merks, they would be obliged to pay it. The said ballie also informed the counsell, that these Lords of the Committee of Counsell were to meet here on Saturday nixt, and it was concluded, that the ballie and some of the toune counsell should attend them."

* *A Just Reproof to the False Reports*, &c. p. 7.

† *Account of an horrid and barbarous murder*, in a Letter from a gentleman in Fife to a friend in Edinburgh, Feb. 5, 1705.

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to whom we have just referred. The woman had escaped from prison, as it would appear, by the connivance of the minister, who, after the attention that began to be paid to her case by persons of rank and influence, seems to have lost all hope of bringing her to the stake, and was, probably, glad to get rid of her. She was apprehended, however, and sent back to Pittenweem by another active clergyman in the neighbourhood, in the custody of two men, who carried her as a matter of course to the minister, in whose person the offices of priest and king appear to have been harmoniously combined throughout all these proceedings. But the clergyman had nothing to say to her; he was not concerned, he told the rabble; and they might do what they pleased with her.

"They took encouragement from this," says the Fife gentleman, "to fall upon the poor woman, those of the minister's family going along with them, as I hear; they fell upon the poor creature immediately, and beat her unmercifully, tying her so hard with a rope, that she was almost strangled; they dragged her through the streets, and alongst the shore by the heels. A bailie hearing of a rabble near his stair, came out upon them, which made them immediately disappear. But the magistrates, though met together, not taking care to put her into close custody, for her safety, the rabble gathered again immediately, and stretched a rope betwixt a ship and the shoar, to a great height, to which they tied her fast; after which they swinged her to and fro, from one side to another, in the meantime throwing stones at her from all corners, until they were weary. Then they loosed her, and with a mighty swing threw her upon the hard sands; all about being ready in the mean time to receive her with stones and staves, with which they beat her most cruelly. Her daughter in the time of her mother's agony, though she knew of it, durst not adventure to appear, lest the rabble had used her after the same manner, being in a house in great concern and terror, out of natural affection for her mother. They laid a heavy door upon her, with which they prest her so sore, that she cried out to let her up for Christ's sake, and she would tell the truth. But when they did let her up, what she said could not satisfy them, and therefore they again laid on the door, and with a heavy weight of stones on it, prest her to death. And to be sure it was so, they called a man with a horse and a sledge, and made him drive over her corp backward and forward several times. When they were sure she was killed outright, they dragged her miserable carcass to Nicolas Lowson's house, where they first found her.

"There was a motion made to treat Nicolas Lowson (another witch) after the same manner immediately; but some of them being wearied with three hours' sport, as they called it, said, 'It would be better to delay her for another day's divertisement;' and so they all went off."

To the disgrace of the country, the rabble, who had been so easily dispersed by the magistrates before, do not appear to have experienced any interruption in this protracted murder, which was perpetrated on the 30th January 1705, in one of the most civilized counties of Scotland, and within a few hours' distance of the metropolis. But this was an enormity which it was impossible for a well regulated government to overlook. The Privy Council had lent a deaf ear, as we have seen, to two sets of commissioners from this priest-ridden junto, who do not appear to have been supported either by the presbytery, or the commission of the General Assembly of the kirk; but this very plain hint was still not plain enough for their comprehension. On the present occasion, it was necessary to operate upon their perverted intellects by a more definite expression of disapprobation. Besides this, Mrs White, a witch of the better order, about this time commenced an action against these magistrates for wrongous imprisonment. These proofs of a remarkable improvement in public opinion seem to have put an end to the legal persecution of old women in that quarter,—though, as appears from the order made upon the petition of Beatrix Layng in May thereafter, formerly referred to—not to the belief in the existence of witches. The following paper, of which the title does not exactly correspond with its contents, is transcribed from the original records, and the proceedings

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of the Privy Council do not seem to have been carried further. The report of the committee represents the murder as of a less atrocious character than the account of it we have taken from the letter of the gentleman of Fife, though the two are by no means inconsistent with each other.

"*Approbation of the Report of the Committee anent the Murder att Pittenweem.*

"*At Edinr. Feb.* 15, 1705.

"The Lords of her Majestie's Privy Counsell doe heirby nominat and appoynt the Earles of Rothes and Hadingtoun, Lords Yester, Advocat, and Enstruther, to be a committie to inquyre into the murder committed upon a woman in Pittenweem, as suspect of witchcraft, and recommends to the said committee to meet to-morrow at twelve o'clock, in the midd-day, and call for Baillie Couts, in Pittenweem, and know at him why he suffered the said murder to be committed, and did not keep the publict peace in the place, and appoynts the solicitors to cite the rest of the Magistrates of the said burgh of Pittenweem, to appear before the said committee and ansuer to what shall be laid to their charge, for their not keeping the peace of the place, as said is, and declares any three of the said committee a quorum, and to report.

"*Report of the Committee appointed to inquyre after the Murder committed at Pittenweem.*

"At Edinburgh, sederunt the Earle of Rothes, the Lord Yester, the Lord Enstruther, and her Majesties Advocat. The baillies compearing, and having given in a sub' information of the matter of fact, with the double of the precognition taken by them anent the murder of Janet Cornfoot, they find that the said Janet was brought from the parish of Lewchars by two men, to the town of Pittenweem, upon the throttieth of Jan^ry last, about six acloak at night; that the men brought her first to the minister, after she had stayed a little in a private house of the town; and that the minister being for the time at Baillie Cook's house, she was brought before Baillie Cook's door, but not immediately secured as she ought to have been: That when the officer, Peter Innes, after a little time, was found, and sent to secure her, the rable was up, and that they deforced the officer, and made him flee: That the officer went to the other two baillies and gott their verbal orders, but they concerned themselves no further: That when Baillie Cook heard of the rable, he came out himself and dispersed them, and rescued the poor woman, but found her almost halfe dead, lying within the sea-mark: That she being in that condition, Baillie Cook did not order her to prison, but ordained the officer and four men to take her to a private house: That they carried her to Nicolas Lawson's, other houses being unwilling to receive her: That before Nicolas Lawson's door she was again assaulted, cast down, and murdered. And that it appears the principal actors wer Robert Dalziell, a skipper's son, Walter Watson, in Bruntisland, and one Groundwater, an Orkney man; all three fled."

While these active magistrates displayed so much laudable anxiety to expel the great enemy of mankind and his associates from their jurisdiction, it was not to be expected that they should look with horror on the instruments by which their object was in some degree accomplished. The end was probably thought holy enough to sanctify the means, however irregular. It does not appear that a single individual was ever brought to trial for the "three hours' sport" of the rabble who murdered Janet Cornfoot. Before the bailies made their appearance in presence of the committee of the Privy Council, they had contrived, indeed, to imprison some of the murderers, but according to the writer of the letter to a nobleman, already quoted, "they were not long from the town, when the minister set them at liberty," as it is alleged, by virtue of an order from these magistrates themselves.

The only man accused by Mortoun was one Thomas Brown, who died in prison, "after a great deal of hunger and hardship;" and his remains, as well as those of Janet Cornfoot, were denied Christian burial.

We have said so much of the Pittenweem witches, not because the evidence against them, if Mortoun's pretended fits could deserve such a name, or the murder of two of them, are circumstances in themselves remarkable. Hundreds were brought to the stake in Scotland during the

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seventeenth century, on no better grounds. But what is worthy of particular notice in their case, is the visible conflict between statute-law supported by the obstinate credulity of the lower classes, on the one hand,—and the dawn of a purer day which was then rising upon our rulers, and had already begun to dispel the illusions of the most detestable fanaticism, on the other. Yet it is a melancholy thing to reflect how long the night had lasted, and how deep had been its darkness; nor is it less lamentable to perceive how ineffectually the influence of true religion and of science is opposed, in our own days, to the inveterate credulity of a large proportion of our countrymen.

ACCOUNT OF DAVID RITCHIE, THE ORIGINAL OF THE BLACK DWARF.

The singular person of whose real history and condition we now propose to detail a few particulars, has already excited the curiosity and contributed to the entertainment of the public in no ordinary degree, under the fictitious character of the Black Dwarf. Of Ritchie's being the real prototype of that marvellous misanthrope, we do not profess to entertain even the shadow of a doubt. Under that view he has been already described, evidently from high authority, in the Quarterly Review—and also in the Edinburgh Monthly Magazine for June, by a correspondent who has since communicated to us some further curious and well authenticated information, which corroborates in general his former account, and which, with materials from other sources, enables us to present our readers with the following details.

David Ritchie, commonly called Bowed Davie, was born at Easter Happrew, in the parish of Stobo, Peebleshire, about the year 1740. His father, William Ritchie, a labouring man, was employed for many years in the slate quarries at that place, as was also one of his sons, who was older than David. The name of our hero's mother was Niven. David used to say, that his deformity was owing to *ill-guiding* in his childhood; but this was not credited, and he is understood to have been mis-shapen from his birth. Whether his peculiar temper arose entirely from this cause or from original disposition, it appears at least to have displayed itself at a very early age; and his father used to observe, that "he was born either to slay or be slain." He was never more than a few months at school, but he had learned to read English very well. He was sent to Edinburgh when young to learn the trade of a brush-maker; but his extraordinary figure attracted so much notice, that he soon left this city in disgust, and retired to his native hills.

How he subsisted on his return to the country we have not heard, but some time afterwards, probably on the death of his father, he attracted the notice of Sir James Nasmyth; and being now settled in the parish of Manor, he formed the plan of erecting a cottage for himself on the grounds of that gentleman, whose permission he seems to have readily obtained. He fixed upon a spot of ground at the bottom of a steep bank on the farm of Woodhouse. The benevolent proprietor directed his servants to lend him what assistance he might require, and gave him possession of the ground rent-free. The dwarf required but little assistance. With incredible labour and perseverance, he first cleared the space to be occupied by his hut and a small garden; scooping out for that purpose a large recess in the side of the hill, which, rising abruptly, formed on the one side a natural wall to the garden. The rest of it was inclosed partly by a wall of considerable height, and partly by the cottage, which occupied another of the sides. The walls both of the garden and the hut were chiefly built by Davie himself, of such materials as the spot afforded. Though without mortar, they were very solid, and were formed of alternate layers of large stones and turf. Having covered the cottage with a neat thatch-roof, and constructed a small door, and a few rude pieces of household furniture, he proceeded to the cultivation of his garden, in which he displayed very considerable taste, as well as industry. In a short time he contrived to stock it with a few fruit-trees, and with all sorts of flowers, herbs, and culinary vegetables which could be procured in the neighbourhood. His manner of working is described, by persons who used to visit

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him, as exceedingly laborious. Being unable to make any use of his feet in digging, he had a spade so contrived, that he could force it down with his breast; the rest of the labour was performed entirely by means of his arms and hands, in which he possessed great strength. He also procured some beehives, and planted a bower of willows and rowan-tree; and by degrees his little hermitage exhibited a very striking contrast to the slovenly *kail-yards* of the neighbouring peasants, and looked more like a fairy bower than a wizard's den. It soon came to be resorted to by visitors, being accounted, with its inhabitant, one of the most interesting curiosities of the country. The late venerable Professor Ferguson used sometimes to visit Davie, and also, it is said, some other individuals of high literary celebrity. The cultivating, ornamenting, and shewing-off this little spot, formed his chief occupation and greatest pleasure. He reared a great profusion of flowers for his more elegant visitors, and chamomile, rhubarb, and other medicinal herbs, for his homely neighbours. He also supplied the tables of some gentlemen in the neighbourhood with honey. His bees, along with a dog and cat, of all which he was very fond, formed the whole of his live stock. This original cottage falling into disrepair, Sir James Nasmyth ordered a new one, consisting of two separate dwellings under one roof, to be erected for him and his sister, in 1802, at a short distance from the former. This was constructed by masons under Davie's directions; but he built the new garden wall almost entirely with his own hands. His sister wished to have one outer door common to both apartments; but he insisted on having two separate ones, as they appear at present. The house was, accordingly, divided by a complete partition. Davie's door is about three feet and a half high, and he could stand upright below the lintel. It has a small chink for a window, with wooden shutters. He would not admit of glass in it. Mr Ballantyne, the present farmer of Woodhouse, enlarged the garden at the same time; which addition it took Davie a whole year to put in order to his liking. He turned up the soil two feet and a half deep, clearing it of large stones, &c. His sister and he having frequently quarrelled, a sort of estrangement took place between these two lonely beings. The sister, though no way deformed in her person, was never capable of regular employment, from a degree of mental aberration. They were long the only persons in the parish, who received support from the poor's funds. The dwarf, however, derived the chief part of his subsistence from the gratuitous contributions of the neighbouring farmers and gentry, most of whom he occasionally visited. Davie's *meal-pock* also hung constantly in the mill, and every person who had a *melder* ground allotted a small portion of it for his use. These resources, together with occasional presents from strangers who visited his dwelling, and the vegetables which he produced by his horticulture, sufficed for all his little wants. The pecuniary donations he received were chiefly expended on snuff, which was almost his only luxury, and one in which he indulged to excess. He kept a whisky bottle, too, and occasionally sold a little for some years, but was never known to be too free in the use of it himself. He died in December 1811, after an illness of three days. According to his own account, he was about 71 years of age at the time of his death; but it is believed that he was several years older. He had become very penurious in the latter part of his life. Although subsisting entirely on charity, about L. 20 was found in his chest at his death, the half of which was restored to the parish.

The garden still retains marks of its original neatness, but is now totally unpruned. His sister, who is younger than Davie by some years, has become a good deal more deranged in her mind since his death. She never passes the night in the cottage, but resides there through the day, and sleeps at the farmer's, Mr Ballantyne of Woodhouse. Of late a great many strangers call at the cottage, from whom she has received many charitable offerings. She cannot understand the cause of their great curiosity concerning her brother's history. She said to a friend of ours who visited the place a few weeks ago—"What gars folk speer sae mony questions about us? Our parents were mean, but there was nae ill anent them."

We are enabled to present our readers with the following sketch of

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Davie's singular physiognomy, from an original drawing taken some time before his death by a very accomplished person who lived for many years in habits of frequent and familiar intercourse with him, and which we believe is a striking likeness. It will be found to differ in some slight particulars from the description of the novelist, who, of course, was under no obligation to adhere rigidly or uniformly to his original materials in the delineation of either mental or physical qualities; yet the force and felicity with which he has in general transferred to his glowing canvas, not only the more striking characteristics, but often the minutest details, is altogether wonderful. So far as regards personal beauty, however, poor Davie has no great cause to complain of the appearance he exhibits, when arrayed in the wizard mantle of the Black Dwarf. The couplet in which Pope describes Sir Richard Blackmore, seems no longer hyperbolical when applied to Bowed Davie.

> "He was so ugly and so grim,
> His shadow durst not follow him."

His eyes, however, which were black, are said to have been fine. Of the rest of his person no accurate sketch, we believe, has ever been taken. It was still more remarkable, however, than his visage, and after many minute inquiries, we have no hesitation in adopting, almost without variation, the words of his fictitious historian, who, in the following description, is allowed to have given a pretty exact and unexaggerated portrait. "His body, thick and square, like that of a man of middle size, was mounted upon two large feet; but nature seemed to have forgotten the legs and the thighs, or they were so very short as to be hidden by the dress which he wore. His arms were long and brawny, furnished with two muscular hands, and, when uncovered in the eagerness of his labour, were shagged with coarse black hair. It seemed as if nature had originally intended the separate parts of his body to be the members of a giant, but had afterwards capriciously assigned them to the person of a dwarf, so ill did the length of his arms, and the iron strength of his frame, correspond with the shortness of his stature."

His height was about three feet and a half. His skull, which was of an oblong and rather unusual shape, was

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of such strength that he could strike it with ease through the pannel of a door or the end of a tar-barrel. His laugh is said to have been quite horrible; and his screech-owl voice, shrill, uncouth, and dissonant, corresponded well with his other peculiarities.

There was nothing very uncommon about his dress. He usually wore an old slouched hat when he went abroad; and when at home, a sort of cowl or nightcap, such as he is here represented with. He never wore shoes, being unable to adapt them to his mis-shapen fin-like feet, but always had both feet and legs quite concealed, and wrapt up with pieces of cloth. He always walked with a sort of pole or pike-staff considerably taller than himself.

His habits were in many respects singular, and indicated a mind sufficiently congenial to its uncouth tabernacle. A jealous, misanthropical, and irritable temper, was his most prominent characteristic. The sense of his deformity haunted him like a phantom; and the insults and scorn to which this exposed him, had poisoned his heart with fierce and bitter feelings, which, from other traits in his character, do not appear to have been more largely infused into his original temperament than that of his fellow men. He detested children, on account of their propensity to insult and persecute him. To strangers he was generally reserved, crabbed, and surly, and though he by no means refused assistance or charity, he, on many occasions, neither expressed nor exhibited much gratitude. Even towards persons who had been his greatest benefactors, and who possessed the greatest share of his good will, he frequently displayed much caprice and jealousy. A lady, who knew him from her infancy, and who has furnished us in the most obliging manner with some particulars respecting him, says, that although Davie shewed as much respect and attachment to her father's family as it was in his nature to shew to any, yet they were always obliged to be very cautious in their deportment towards him. One day having gone to visit him with another lady, he took them through his garden, and was shewing them, with much pride and good humour, all his rich and tastefully-assorted borders, when they happened to stop near a plot of cabbages which had been somewhat injured by the caterpillars. Davie observing one of the ladies smile, instantly assumed his savage scowling aspect, rushed among the cabbages, and dashed them to pieces with his *kent*, exclaiming, "I hate the worms, for they mock me."

Another lady, likewise a friend and old acquaintance of his, very unintentionally gave him mortal offence on a similar occasion. Throwing back his jealous glance, he fancied he saw her spit at him. "Am I a toad, woman! that ye spit at me—that ye spit at me!" he exclaimed with fury, and without listening to any answer, he drove her out of his garden with imprecations and insult. When irritated by persons for whom he entertained little respect, his misanthropy displayed itself in words and sometimes actions of still greater rudeness. He would then utter the most shocking imprecations, swear he would "cleave them to the *harn-pans*"—"if he had but his *cran fingers* on them," &c.

A farmer in the neighbourhood went one night, out of a frolic, to frighten Davie, but paid pretty dearly for his joke. He had assumed the character of a robber, and pretended to be breaking into his hut. The Dwarf, after reconnoitring him from a small unglazed window, which he had near his chimney, wrenched a large stone out of the wall, dashed it down upon the assailant, and knocked him to the ground, where he lay for a while senseless and very severely hurt.

The lady to whose information we have just referred, mentions another anecdote which came within her own knowledge, and which may serve to illustrate the resolute and dogged perseverance of the Dwarf. He had applied to Mr Laidlaw of Hallyards for a branch of a tree which grew in the neighbourhood, to serve some purpose of his own. Mr Laidlaw was always very ready to oblige Davie—but told him, that, on the present occasion, he could not grant his request, as it would injure the tree. Davie made no reply, but went away grumbling to himself. Next morning, some of Mr Laidlaw's servants happened to be going from home so early as two o'clock, when, to their surprise and terror, they perceived through the grey twilight a strange figure struggling and dancing in the

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air behaw the said tree. Upon going up to the place they found it was Davie, who had contrived by some means to fasten a rope to the branch he wanted, and was swinging with all his weight upon it to break it down. They left him, and before he was again disturbed, he succeeded in bringing it to the ground, and carried it home with him.

He had a sort of strange pleasure in wandering out in the dark, and is said to have sometimes spent whole nights among the ruins of old buildings, and other places where spectres were believed to haunt; and he used to vaunt much of his courage and intrepidity in these adventures. With all this bravery he is known to have been extremely superstitious; and, to protect himself from witchcraft, he had planted a great deal of the rowan-tree, or mountain ash, around his dwelling. Upwards of forty of these trees were cut down in his garden after his death. It does not appear that he made any pretensions to warlockry, or that there was any strong suspicion of that nature respecting him among his neighbours, although a knowledge of his revengeful disposition impressed both young and old with a certain degree of fearful respect and awe of him. Davie spent much of his time in solitude, and when his garden did not require his care, would lie whole summer days by the side of a well, poring into the water. He also read a good deal when he could get books, and what is remarkable, was very fond of some parts of Shenstone's Pastoral Ballads, which he could repeat by heart. The sort of reading, however, in which he took greatest delight, was the adventures of Wallace and Bruce, and other popular tracts about Scottish heroes, the Highland clans, &c. He possessed a copy of Milton's Paradise Lost, some parts of which he read with much interest. He had also got hold of "Tooke's Pantheon," and had his head confusedly stored with the stories of the Heathen Mythology. His information, such as it was, appeared to great advantage when he mingled with the peasantry at the mill or smithy. He was very satirical in his conversation; and his harsh creaking voice was there frequently heard much higher than the sound of the clapper, or the fore-hammer. He visited Peebles, the county town, occasionally, but very seldom went to church. He was supposed to entertain some very peculiar notions on religious subjects, but those who were intimate with him say that he would now and then speak concerning a future state, with great earnestness and good sense; and on such occasions, when his feelings were excited, would sometimes burst into tears.

Davie would rather appear to have had some ambition of posthumous honours. Perhaps Tooke's Pantheon might have inspired him with a thirst of immortality, or perchance he had some presentiment of his approaching apotheosis, under the plastic hands of a mighty magician,—a still more extraordinary and mysterious personage than himself—one who has not only raised up the spirits of the departed, but, by disrobing them of the more vulgar and prosaic *rags* of their mortal state, and investing them with imposing and poetical qualities, has restored them to the world in a guise a thousand times more pleasing and picturesque, and yet scarcely less true to nature, than the reality itself. But, whether poor Davie possessed the second sight or not, it is certain that he long expressed a desire to be buried on a particular spot which he pointed out, and not in the churchyard among the "*common brush*," as he expressed it. One of the motives assigned by him for this singular wish, was his aversion to have the clods clapped down upon him "by such a fellow as Jock Somerville the *bell-man*." This person he always detested, and would scarcely stay in his company, probably from a secret feeling of disgust, or disagreeable reminiscence, suggested by a certain resemblance which the grave-digger bore to himself in personal deformity.

He appears to have displayed no small portion of taste in the selection of his burial ground. It is described in a little tract now before us, as a "beautiful mount called the Woodhill, which rises from a plain nearly in the centre of the parish of Manor, skirted with a number of venerable old trees, and encircled by an amphitheatre of steep and lofty mountains, covered to the tops with heath, and having their sides broken and diversified by deep ravines, and rocky precipices. This picturesque little hill, rising abruptly

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in the middle of a delightful plain, with its deep green ferny summit crowned with a Druidical circle, and its declivities white with sheep; the silvery links of Manor Water winding at its base, through fertile haughs and fields of grain; the aged trees scattered here and there along the bottom of the precipitous hills, the wild abodes of the goat, the raven, the fox, and the falcon; and the dark summits of the farther mountains towering over all,—present a burst of upland scenery not unworthy of arresting the notice of the traveller, even although it had never possessed the additional attraction of having been the residence of the illustrious Ferguson, as well as of the eccentric Dwarf of Manor Water." * The eccentric Dwarf, as the same writer states, also requested that a clump of *rowan-tree* might be planted above his grave, on the Woodhill. A promise to this effect was given him. But he changed his mind on his death-bed, and was "gathered to his fathers" like a decent Christian, in the churchyard of Manor.

A TREATY BETWEEN THE KINGS OF GOA AND TALLO (CONFEDERATED MACASSAR CHIEFS) AND THE PEOPLE CALLED ENGLISH—1615.

(Communicated by John Crawfurd, Esq.)

THE following paper is a curious instance of the jealousy with which the European nations were viewed on their first intercourse with India. The Macassar nation was then the most commercial of the East Insular tribes. They were the carriers of the Archipelago, and had a natural monopoly of the spice trade, not to say that they were paramount on their own native island of Celebes. Among the records of this people were found in our times treaties with various native and European powers, and, among others, one with some individuals of our nation. These persons seem, from the tenor of the instrument, to have promised the Raja an embassy from their sovereign, but such a one never arrived.

A Treaty between the Kings of Goa and Tallo (confederated Macassar Chiefs) and the People called English.

FOUR Englishmen only shall reside at Macassar. The English shall not construct forts nor warehouses, nor express any desire to possess Macassar. The English shall not go into the interior of our country,—they shall take no cognizance of offences,—they shall convert none of our people to their religion. In any disputes arising between them and us, they shall conform to the laws of our country. The English shall not commit any acts of hostility within our harbours, towards any other nation whatsoever. Whenever they come into our harbours they shall make us presents of fire-arms and ammunition. Before sailing, they shall pay the accustomed fees for weighing merchandise and the usual imposts; and they shall farther wait upon the King of Goa, and ask his permission to proceed on their voyage. If a great man should come to our country on the part of the English, we, on our side, engage not to interfere between him and his dependents, provided he does nothing which is disagreeable to us. Such a person shall, on no account, purchase for slaves persons who profess the Mahommedan religion. In any affair which may arise between such great man and us, he shall follow the customs of our country; on his return home he shall deliver the present treaty to the King of England, that he may understand and acknowledge it, and forswear any claim to our country, or intention to do any thing hostile towards us, or listen to the affairs of the neighbouring countries, or of the states of our island. Lastly, When the English are in our harbours, our enemies shall be their enemies, but we shall take no part with them against theirs. Agreed upon on Tuesday, in the month of Moharram, year B. 1024 of the Hegira, corresponding with the Christian year 1615.

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* "A short Account of David Ritchie, with an elegy on his death: printed for the author, July 1816." This is curious, as having been in print some little time before the Tales of my Landlord appeared. But it was never published, and the author, whom we have conversed with, does not imagine that any of the few copies which he privately distributed could possibly have found their way to the hands of either Mr Peter Pattieson, or his learned and worthy patron, the Schoolmaster of Gandercleugh.

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STATE OF THE SCOTTISH ARMY UNDER GENERAL ALEXANDER LESLIE, IN THE YEAR 1641.

In the summer of 1640, an army was suddenly collected in different parts of Scotland, for the purpose of repelling an expected invasion from England, and placed under the command of General Alexander Leslie, aided by various other officers who, like himself, had learned the military art, and acquired no small share of military fame, in the wars of Gustavus Adolphus. On the approach of the English forces under the Lord Conway, the Scottish army crossed the Border, and on the 28th of August, at Newburn, on the river Tyne, encountered and repulsed their opponents, and obtained complete possession of Newcastle and the neighbouring country as far as the borders of Yorkshire. In this situation they remained for more than a year: but during this period of inactivity, it is creditable to the talents of Leslie and his officers, that they not only maintained the most exact discipline among his troops, but were able to improve their skill in all the military exercises, to a degree that had till then been but little known in Great Britain.

Among these officers, one of the most eminent was Colonel Sir Alexander Hamilton [of Priestfield], general of the artillery, or master of the ordnance, a younger brother of Thomas first Earl of Haddington; and who, like the commander-in-chief, had been recalled by his countrymen from a distinguished station in foreign service, to take a share in that distracting and unhappy warfare with which his native kingdom was threatened. In a petition to the King and Parliament of Scotland, Colonel Hamilton states it as "not unknown that his whole study has been in the art of military discipline, especially anent artillery, wherein he being employed in Germany upon honourable and good conditions, he was recalled therefrom to England, where his majesty was graciously pleased to grant him pensions and allowances of eight hundred pound Sterling by year;" and in the history of the civil wars, his eminent services as a soldier, more especially in his own department of the ordnance, are commemorated. It was owing to his superior skill in the management of artillery that the affair at Newburn had been terminated so advantageously, and with such small loss to the Scottish army.

In the month of August 1641, King Charles I. in the course of his journey into Scotland, visited the army at Newcastle, and was entertained by Leslie with a display of its exact discipline and soldierlike appearance, which probably was intended by the General for other purposes besides those of common military parade. Of this royal review, and of the conduct of the army and its commander, on their soon afterwards retiring from England, a curious and not uninteresting account was published at the time in one of those small pamphlets which were then issuing daily from the press, and of which we shall here present our readers with a reprint. It is of English composition, but will be found to do ample justice to the military character of the Scottish army, and their able commanders; not omitting what was due to the warlike inventions of "that their famous engineer Sandy Hamilton," who will be readily recognized as the person of whom we have given some account.*

His Maiesties passing through the Scots Armie: As also, his Entertainment by Generall Lesly. Together with the manner of the Scots marching out of Newcastle. Related by the best Intelligence. Printed in the year 1641.

His Maiesties passing through the Scots Army.

Generall Lasley being aduertised of the time of his majesties com-

* The mechanical inventions of Colonel Hamilton had not been altogether confined to the art military. In 1624, he obtained a patent for the sole using of a new cart devised by him, for the space of 21 years. It sets forth, "that our soueraine lord, understanding that Mr Alexander Hamilton, brother to the Earle of Melrois, by his paines, industrie, and grite charges, hath devysed and found out the use of a new carte, wherein gritter weight and burdenis may with far lesse force be drawne, and convenientlie caryed then hath bene done with onie uther kynd of carte hitherto knowne or heretofore used; and our said soverane lord, thinking it good reasone that he sould reape the fruitts of his honest labouris in that kinde, and to encourage him and utheris to goe on in finding out such laudable engynes,—Thairfore," &c.—In a future number we may probably offer to our readers some details of the history of this eminent person.

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ming to Newcastle, that hee might as well appeare in his own art and lustre, as in his dutie and loialty to his soueraigne, (hauing first made his choyce of fitt ground,) hee drew out his whole forces, both horse and foot, with the artillerie: and the better to express the souldiers salute and welcome of their king, hee rallied his men into two diuisions of equall number, ranging them in a great length, with an equall distance betweene them of about eight score, which rendered them the more conspicuous, and with the braver aspect to the beholders. Through these the king was to pass; whither being come, the Generall alighting from his horse, (which was presently taken by two of his footmen,) hee prostrated himselfe and service before the king, upon his knees, his majestie a while priuately talking to him, and at his rising gave him his hand to kisse, and commanded his horse to be giuen him, whereon remounted, he ridd with the king through the armie.

In the first place stood Highlanders, commonly called *Redshankes*, with their plaides cast ouer their shoulders, hauing euery one his bowe and arrowes, with a broad slycing sword by his syde; these are so good markesmen that they will kill a deere in his speed, it being the chiefest part of their liuing, selling the skinns by great quantities, and feeding on the flesh. Next were musketeers, interlac't with pikes, and here and there intermixt with those dangerous short gunnes, inuented by that their famous engineer *Sandy Hamilton*, and were for the sudden execution of horse, in case they should assaile them: then again bowes, muskets, and pikes, for a good distance on both sides. In the midway, the artillery was placed by tiers, consisting of about 60 peices of ordnance, the cannoniers standing in readines with fired linstocks in their hands. The horsemen were here placed on both sides, which serued as wings or flankes for the whole army, and so forward in the same order, but disposed into so goodly a presence and posture, with such sutable equipage and millitarie accommodations, that they appeared ready to give or take battaile, or forthwith to have gone upon some notable designe. And as the king passed along, they gave such true fyre, as it is beleeued, since the inuention of gunnes, neuer better was seene or heard; they discharged wondrous swift, but with as good a method and order as your skilfullest ringers observe with bels, not suffering the noyse of the one to drowne the other. The king receiued such contentment, that whereas his dinner was appointed and prouided at the maiors of New-castle, hee yet went and honoured Generall Lasley with his presence at dinner, who hath not only gained a good report with his majestie to be a brave souldier, but also a singular esteeme to be a most expert and able commander and generall, by such of our English officers as were then with his majestie.

The manner of the Scots departure, and marching out of Newcastle.

The *Scots*, when they marched out of Newcastle, their artillerie being mounted vpon their carriages, aduanced first forth with the cannoniers and other officers thereto belonging, and some troops of horse; then most of the regiments of foot; after them their prouision, baggage, and carriage; then followed the rest of the foot, and all the rest taking their leaves in a most brotherly and friendly manner. Being gone some foure miles from the towne, their generall hauing directed them to march forwards, he returned to Newcastle, accompanied with some few of his officers, causing the toll-bell to be rung vp and downe the towne, proclaiming that if any of the towne were not yet satisfied for any thing due to them from any of his officers or souldiers, let them bring in their tickets and hee would pay them, which hee did accordingly, to the great content of the townes-men, and much applause of the generall and his whole armie. And after a solemne taking of his leave, he followed the armie, going all the way along with them in the reere, as they marched, and not any thing taken from any man in all their iourney, to their singular commendation, and gayning the good esteeme of all that passed by.

NOTICE RESPECTING THE PILNIE-WINKS, AN INSTRUMENT OF TORTURE.

MR EDITOR,

In a very able and amusing paper, in your August Number, on Thumbikens

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and other instruments of torture formerly used in Scotland, mention is made of the Pilniewinks. Whether the following anecdote may in any way illustrate the subject, I leave to your own decision, or, if you insert it, to that of your readers.

Some years ago the writer of this article was in a large, and rather a mixed company, in the neighbourhood of Fordoun, in Mearns, and on some of the younger members expressing their mirth in rather a boisterous manner, an old man, half seriously, half jocularly, declared they should be put into the *pilniewinks*. As the word was a new one to me, I made inquiry as to its meaning, and was answered, that it was "*pitting their finger in a box, and ca'ing in a pin aside it.*" * The person I allude to is now "gathered with his fathers," or more particular inquiry would have been made. Should it meet your approbation, I may, at a future period, send you a drawing and description of a set of "*Witches' Branks,*" which I have seen; an instrument calculated for preventing the unfortunate wretches, whom the folly and superstition of the time consigned to a horrid death, from expressing their suffering when the most painful tortures were applied to them. I am, &c. J. S.

Montrose, Sept. 23, 1817.

STATISTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES OF GLASGOW, PAISLEY, GREENOCK, AND THE ADJACENT DISTRICTS.

(*Continued from p.* 124, *and Concluded.*)

Of the actual number of operative weavers it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to obtain a correct estimate. They are said to have formed themselves into district societies, when contending with their employers. The records of these societies, if accessible, would furnish the best return of their actual numbers. But, as these combinations have been denounced as illegal, and as some of the leaders have been actually convicted and punished, it would be vain to expect that their records, if they still exist, should be subjected to scrutiny. But an approximation may be deduced from certain known facts.

A petition, presented by the operatives to Parliament, was subscribed by upwards of 20,000 persons residing in Glasgow and its vicinity. Few weavers residing in Renfrewshire, Ayrshire, and the more remote counties, were included. Care is said to have been taken to admit only real signatures; but exertion was also used to make these as numerous as possible, in order to give weight to the application. If the number quoted be doubled, it may contain nearly the entire number in Scotland; and 40,000 is generally understood, by well informed persons, to be about the actual amount. This may be reckoned about one-eighth part of the whole adult male population of Scotland. It is, however, to be noticed, that the quantity of cloth fabricated since the depression of prices has very greatly increased, although the number of operatives may be stationary, or even declining. Whilst wages were high, weavers, on an average, certainly did not work above fifty hours weekly. At present, on an average, they work at least eighty hours, and with redoubled exertion. Upon a pretty general inquiry, the result is, that few new looms are at present constructed, and very few old ones unoccupied, which certainly indicates a stationary trade, verging towards decline; if it be at the same time considered, how very many old weavers have been sent back to their original employment, by the reduction of the navy, army, militia, and other establishments dependent on a state of warfare. The training of apprentices is certainly almost annihilated.

The proximate cause of this state of the trade is very clearly the fluctuation and general decline in the wages of labour. This will be best explained by a detail of the actual facts.

A printed list of the prices to be paid for weaving the most general descriptions of cotton goods, was published about the year 1790; and this list was regarded, for many subsequent years, as a standard, though

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* Putting the finger in a hole, and forcing in a pin, or wedge, beside it, and in that respect similar to the *buits*, but applied to younger persons, whose legs might have been broken by the latter operation.

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subjected to occasional reduction, not vague or undefined, but bearing always a reference to the list itself. This system gradually changed into the practice of rendering all prices of labour dependent on mutual agreement between the employers and operatives, without reference to any general standard. This open mode of agreement was ultimately sanctioned by an act of Parliament, which provides, however, that manufacturers shall deliver to a weaver, along with every web, a ticket, upon which the agreement of the parties, as to the wages to be given, shall be distinctly specified.

The variation of the prices of labour, computed from an average of the tickets of the most respectable houses, compared with the list of 1792, is given below. It is also to be observed, that the prices of plain goods, of a description for which there is always a certain demand, however limited, have been taken; because the vicissitudes occasioned by fancy and fashion, are always uncertain and suspicious.

In the table, unity is taken as the rate of the maximum list 1792; the ratio of declension, since the year 1812, is expressed by the decimals.

List of 1792 acted on until 1804,	1.00
1813, February,	.52
—— May,	.72
—— July,	.62
1814, 1815, *passim*, (for little fluctuation occurred,)	.56
1816, February,	.46
1817, June,	.36
—— July,	.32
—— August,	.36

The fair inference resulting from this state of our great manufacture, which has absorbed so much capital and employed so many persons, becomes very obvious.

It has been carried beyond those limits which the existing demand, to which the manufacturer can find access, will exhaust; and, although it must ever prove a great and beneficial trade to the country, within its legitimate sphere, it evidently has been, and is greatly overdone.

Whatever depression of manufactures exists in the west of Scotland, must mainly be deduced from this source; a few remarks, therefore, may probably prove sufficient to explain the state of all or most of the others.

Bleachers, dyers, cloth-lappers, and the other master tradesmen who are employed by the manufacturer of cloth, with separate establishments of their own, suffer less from the depression. Their situation is somewhat analogous to that of the spinner. The extent of the weaving manufacture fully employs them, and there is seldom sufficient competition amongst themselves to injure each other.

Calico printers, who conduct all the processes of manufacture, and whose establishments require enormous capital and outlay, experience all the disadvantages of overstocked trade, without generally having any intermediate agent to divide the risk betwixt them and the exporter; they are, besides, subject to heavy duties of excise, which require a certain and additional capital, generally of great extent. As a counterpoise, the policy of their workmen has been directly opposed to that of the operative weavers; and their uniform endeavour has been to exclude operatives from the trade, and to obtain a monopoly against their employers. This has certainly kept the stock of printed goods lower in the market than it might otherwise have been, had this check not existed. Its illegality has not entirely prevented it from doing some good; though probably this was little in the contemplation of either of the parties interested.

Connected with the cotton trade, the next and last branch to which any allusion is necessary, is the stocking or hosiery manufacture, the depression of which has also been great.

In this manufacture, however, there is no particular locality; for none, perhaps, is more generally distributed over all Scotland. The policy of the manufacturers, in this department, has been directly the reverse of that followed by the manufacturers of cloth. Stocking frames are complex and costly machines, which capitalists only can generally acquire; and which are very soon rendered useless, without constant employment and attention. The policy, therefore, of the manufacturers has been, to restrict their men to a certain quantity of work, without dismissing them entirely. Many, however, have left the trade; and, as it is essentially laborious, and requires

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the full strength of a man, it is impossible to overstock it, like the weaving, with an influx of boys and children.

Although many other manufactures are carried to a great extent in the west of Scotland, both for home consumption and export, all of which must have been partially, and at times severely depressed, none have exhibited vicissitudes, either in market prices or in wages, in any respect comparable with those experienced by the cotton trade. Amongst these may be enumerated the respective manufactures of iron and brass founding, of leather, shoes, boots, gloves, and saddlery, of glass and earthen ware, of soap and candles, brushes, and many other articles, necessary where a great population exists, and which have been considerably extended by a constant exportation, though to an extent always fluctuating. These manufactures have rather kept pace with, than preceded the actual demand; and hence their depression has been seldom particularly remarkable either for severity or continuance.

The mechanical professions, specially employed to supply the home market, have also kept a tolerably steady course, as those of the smith, carpenter, turner, mason, bricklayer, slater, plasterer, &c. The extension both of machinery and building has continued unabated, notwithstanding every depression; and, even in the present year, immense piles of buildings, nay whole streets, are going on with the usual activity. This seems to warrant the conclusion, that suspension of demand, in most trades, is still more severely felt than actual absence of funds; and that capital is to be readily found wherever it is invited by a prospect of profitable investment.

The state of the great manufactures is intimately blended with, and affected by, that of external commerce; they act reciprocally upon each other, and generally flourish or suffer together. When manufactures are greatly overstocked at home, foreign markets are always glutted in a short time, either by the speculations of merchants, or by the consignments of manufacturers themselves.

The following proportional table may afford a pretty fair view of the relative extent of the export trade for six years past. It is calculated from a comparison of drawbacks, allowed during the respective years, for manufactures subjected to the duties of excise. Articles have been selected for which there has been the most regular demand, and of those descriptions in which there appeared the least propensity to extend them too far. The maximum, as in the former table, is fixed at unity, and the ratio of decrement is exhibited by the decimals.

Rate of quantities in	1812,	.46
———	1813,	.88
———	1814,	.65
———	1815,	1.00
———	1816,	.60
———	1817,	.40

The present year not being complete, the ratio is assumed from a view of the first six months. In general, it will be observed that this table rises and falls nearly at the same dates as the former. The chief difference is in 1815. In this year the exports were very extensive; but the prices of cotton weaving were not raised. It had plainly tended, however, to keep them up; for, when the exportation declined in 1816, they instantly fell above 20 *per cent.*, and have continued to decline with the exports, until the present month, when they have revived a little.

Upon the prospects of revival a few remarks may be hazarded. They depend, however, upon contingencies so various, and so widely extended, that we can reach little beyond mere conjecture. The reasons being explicitly stated, every reader will be enabled to judge for himself how far the conclusions are warranted by the premises.

It seems proper to divest the question of all political considerations of ambition or jealousy in any European state, such as might lead, at an early period, to the revival of hostilities, and to view the question solely as connected with a peace establishment, although probably not with a totally unrestricted commercial intercourse. In this situation, the policy of each state will naturally suggest the promotion and extension of its own trade, whether the means shall be judiciously or injudiciously selected.

It seems morally impossible to believe that the cotton weaving branch can maintain its extended state long,

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under the existing depression of wages. Either the demand must be increased, or the supply will certainly, though perhaps gradually, diminish, until the rate of labour shall resume nearly its natural level, and place the weaver upon an equality with other artisans. But many obstacles present themselves to the fulfilment of this prospect. In many parts of the Continent, lower money wages will procure an equal or a greater supply of necessaries or comforts. Hence the British wages must be influenced by the competition. Nor has mechanical improvement in the weaving branch so far distanced foreign competitors as to counteract a great difference of prices.

In spinning the case is different; although it is now fully ascertained that not only very extensive, but well regulated, cotton-mills do exist at Rouen and other parts of France. Some of the most extensive spinners in Scotland have actually visited and examined these works, and admit the fact. Still, however, the great capital already vested in spinning establishments in Britain,—the matured superiority of machinery,—practical dexterity acquired by long habit,—and the minute division of labour,—and, above all, the security of property,—must continue, for a long time, to operate powerfully in favour of the British spinner.

The exportation of cotton-yarn to the Continent is a great and extending trade. The probability, therefore, is, that Britain will be much more rapidly rivalled in her weaving than in her spinning manufacture, and may export large quantities of her yarn long after she shall cease to experience any considerable demand for her cloths, unless important improvements in weaving machinery shall create a new superiority, as Sir Richard Arkwright's inventions opened an entirely new trade at the conclusion of the American contest.

Upon the whole, it may probably be assumed with truth, that both the commerce and manufactures of Glasgow wear an aspect somewhat more promising than they have exhibited for some years past; but it would certainly be too sanguine to predict a speedy restoration of all the vigour which they have possessed in former times. D.

Glasgow, Sept. 1817.

ACCOUNT OF DR GOSSE'S METHOD OF PRESERVING THE HEALTH OF MANUFACTURERS AND OTHERS FROM THE BAD EFFECTS OF THE INHALATION OF DUST AND HURTFUL VAPOURS, BY MEANS OF A SPONGE MASK.

The preservation of the health of our manufacturers and artisans is an object of the highest importance, not only to those immediately interested, but also to the community at large, who participate in all the advantages resulting from the successful exertion of their industry. The inhalation of noxious substances is one of the causes of disease the most difficult to guard against, because respiration cannot be suspended even for a few minutes without danger, and never without inconvenience. The noxious substances which are capable of operating on the body through the medium of the air we breathe, sometimes act merely by mechanical irritation, such as all kinds of fine dust and fibres suspended in the air and carried along with it into the lungs, but more commonly they exist in a state of solution or intimate combination, and act as poisons by their inherent deleterious properties.

Various means have been imagined to preserve workmen whose occupations oblige them to work in contaminated air. In some cases they have been supplied for respiration, by means of tubes, with a purer air brought from some distance. But, from the very nature of the apparatus required for this purpose, it is of very limited application, both on account of its expence, and its being altogether incompatible with the free exertions of the workmen.

Masks of different kinds worn over the face are exposed to inconveniences of another description. A piece of dry linen, for example, applied over the mouth, may serve to exclude, in a great measure, dust and other powders mechanically suspended in the air, but has no effect in correcting the poisonous properties of the deleterious gases. Moist linen is certainly preferable; but it oppresses the breathing when closely applied, and admits the noxious gases when it does not fit exactly, and, besides, it corrects the qualities but of few of them, and that in a slight degree only.

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Dr Macquart first proposed, in the article Medicine in the French *Encyclopédie*, to counteract animal emanations, by filling the nostrils with small sponges imbibed with some aromatic liquor; but this method leaves the mouth undefended.

M. Brisé Fradin invented an apparatus, with the same object in view, and published an account of it, with a plate and description, in a French periodical work, (*Annales des Arts et Manufactures*. Paris, 1811. Vol. L. p. 203.) Its principle consists in making the air to be inhaled by the mouth pass through a layer of cotton moistened with the liquor best calculated to destroy its hurtful properties. It is, however, too complicated, and somewhat inconvenient in its use; and it only guards the mouth, and leaves the access by the nostrils free. Besides, cotton, by being moistened, loses its elasticity, gathers into a mass, and does not allow the air to pass through it without great difficulty; and, if not sufficiently wetted, is permeable to the emanations intended to be corrected.

These inconveniences induced Dr Gosse of Geneva to resume some experiments on the employment of sponges begun by his father in 1785, and applied by him to the manufacture of hats. The success of these experiments was so great, as to render them deserving of being generally known, with the hope that they may attract the notice of those manufacturers whose workmen suffer from impure emanations, and may thus be the means of prolonging the lives of many useful and industrious citizens.

Dr Gosse's method consists in the application of a mask of fine sponge. It should be selected as much as possible of the shape of a hollow cone, and should be sufficiently large to cover the greater part of the nose, all the mouth, and even the chin. It should apply closely by its margin to the cheeks and chin, while the mouth and point of the nose lie in the hollow of the cone, and, if it be not naturally hollow enough to leave the lips free, it must be kept from them by cross slips of whalebone. When sponges of sufficient size and fineness cannot be got of the required shape, the mask may be made of several pieces joined together; and even a sponge of inferior quality may be covered on the outside with fine sponge. When properly fitted, it is to be moistened in water or other fluid proper for correcting the poisonous quality of the emanations, and tied over the mouth and nose, so that no air can be received into the lungs but what passes through its pores.

This contrivance is free from almost all the objections to which the others are liable. From the porous and elastic nature of sponge, it is easily made to apply closely round the edges, while it permits the air to permeate it freely, and thus does not impede either respiration or speech. It is less inconvenient when used even for a length of time, than could be imagined, and does not at all interfere with the motions of the head or the exertions of the workman. It is not costly, and is easily kept clean. Still its use is sometimes exposed to objections. It keeps the inspired air always moist, which Dr Gosse thinks might be prejudicial to persons disposed to catarrhal affections; and the fluid with which it is necessary sometimes to moisten it, discolours the skin. Also in violent exertion, causing repeated and deep inspirations, it may excite a transient difficulty of breathing. But these inconveniences, trifling in themselves, compared with the evils which it is capable of counteracting, become almost entirely removed by practice, and may in a great measure be avoided by taking care not to use the solutions with which the sponge is moistened, in too concentrated a state, and in removing it from time to time to breath the fresh air, and to wash the face with cold water.

The sponge mask merely soaked with water is sufficient to guard the wearer against the effect of any powder whatever, and is therefore applicable to the *grinders of colours, drugs, and stucco, stone-cutters, cotton-spinners, feather-cleaners, wool-carders, hatmakers, &c. &c.*

Water will also serve the purpose of condensing mercurial vapours, and the more easily that the rapid evaporation which takes place lowers the temperature. For the same reason, the wet sponge mask enables the face to support the heat of an intense fire, to which some professions are exposed, *gilders upon metal, looking-glass manufacturers, goldsmiths, baro-*

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meter-makers, glass-blowers, assayers, metal-casters, enamellers, &c. &c.

For water we may substitute a solution of salt of tartar, in the proportion of one ounce of the salt to eight of water, to neutralize most of the acid vapours or gases which affect the manufacturers of *nitrous acid, aqua fortis, muriatic* and *oxymuriatic acid, bleachers, chemists, engravers, &c. &c.*

Water acidulated with vinegar, a mineral acid, or even oxymuriatic acid, may be used to counteract the miasma to which *physicians* are exposed in visiting infected places, *anatomists* in performing juridical dissections, and *gravediggers*, or those employed to bury the dead in times of *pestilence*.

A solution of sugar of lead in the proportion of one ounce and a half to two pints of rain water, may be used when the workman is exposed to sulphureous or ammoniacal vapours, as they are speedily decomposed by the saturnine solution. Accidents from this cause are not very common in this country, but several men perished at Leadhills from inhaling sulphuretted hydrogen gas on the 1st March 1817. In Paris, however, it is a very frequent cause of accidents to the men employed in emptying the soil-pits.

The exposure to carbonic acid gas for a short time may be rendered less dangerous by wearing the mask soaked in lime-water.

Many vapours have a local effect on the eyes, which is the more troublesome, that the light then becomes a new source of irritation. It is, therefore, not wonderful to see in some manufactories incurable ophthalmias, weakness of sight, and blindness, a frequent consequence. The means hitherto employed to prevent these, far from being of use, rather aggravate the evil, and incommode the vision. It is impossible to make spectacle-frames to fit closely around the eye, and if they be guarded with any kind of cloth, the heat of the confined air becomes insupportable, and the glasses soon grow dim. The sponge furnishes us with a valuable means of obviating these inconveniences. By cutting oval rings of it, it serves for the frame, upon the fore part of which the glasses are to be fixed by pitch, or some other cement, insoluble in water, and by means of ribbons tied around the head, they are easily fitted quite tight around the orbits. Water will serve in most cases to wet these sponge frames, but sometimes it may be slightly acidulated or alkalised. Sponge moistened spectacles would, therefore, be of great service to *nightmen* employed in cleaning soil-pits, *manufacturers of acid, and in general all workmen exposed to irritating vapours and great heat.*

The real advantages to be obtained from the methods here proposed, can only be ascertained by long experience; but the following experiments made by Dr Gosse prove, that they are entitled to some confidence, and deserve the attention of those to whose professions they are adapted.

With a sponge mask soaked in water, Dr Gosse stood beside the workman in a hatmaker's while engaged in the process of *bowing* the hair. The dust, which is very irritating, and contains dried blood and nitrate of mercury, rose in such quantity, that a person could scarcely be distinguished at eight paces distance. The workman, although exposed to a current of air, coughed a great deal, could not speak, and suffered from a headach, which obliged him to interrupt his occupation from time to time. In fact, the *bowers* are subject to various nervous and pulmonary disorders, and all die young. But Dr Gosse remained two hours in this place without any inconvenience; wishing, however, to take off the mask for a little, he was seized with catarrh and sore throat, which lasted till next day. The outside of the mask got covered with a thick coating of dust and hair, which was easily removed. This experiment was often repeated in workshops where the air was loaded with injurious dust, and always with the same results.

Dr Gosse also exposed himself, guarded by the wet sponge, to the vapour of mercury, raised by heating four ounces in a crucible. To ascertain whether the mercury penetrated the mask, he lined it with gold-leaf. In ten minutes an ounce and a half of mercury were evaporated. Dr Gosse's hair and the sponge were covered with a grey powder, which, on being washed, collected into metallic globules. His respiration was not affected, and the gold was not tarnished, except in one spot exposed by

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mistake. The experiment was repeated with perfect success.

The sponge mask and sponge mounted spectacles also succeeded in preventing any bad effects from the vapour of burning sulphur. Six ounces of bruised sulphur were thrown upon a brazier in a close apartment. The fumes were very abundant, and nobody could enter the room without the risk of being suffocated. But guarded by the sponge, wet with a solution of alkali, Dr Gosse remained exposed to the fumes for half an hour without inconvenience.

In 1816, one of the inspectors of health of the city of Paris invited Dr Gosse to make a trial of the efficacy of his sponge mask and spectacles. The soil-pit was in a bad state, or *plombée*, as it is called by the French. Fire had been employed to expel the carbonic acid gas. Two workmen who had gone down successively felt the presence of the mephitism, and could scarcely remain three minutes. They coughed, had difficulty of breathing, and their eyes were much irritated. Dr Gosse descended after them into the pit, with the sponge soaked in a solution of sugar of lead, and his ears stopped with a little moist cotton, and although he stirred up the soil with a shovel, he remained a quarter of an hour without inconvenience, or having his breathing affected. The smell of the sulphuretted hydrogen gas was destroyed, and his eyes even were not affected either by it or the ammoniacal vapours. He made a second trial of his apparatus in another soil-pit, which the workmen had been obliged to desert the evening before, notwithstanding fires were constantly kept up. The morning that Dr Gosse made his experiment in it, three workmen had been drawn out of it with ropes in a state of commencing asphyxia. He descended without taking the precaution of putting cotton in his ears; and to identify his situation as much as possible with that of the workmen, he tried to work himself. But the labour, to which he was not accustomed, united to the keenness with which he performed it, and the heat of the place, caused a good deal of suffering, and he was obliged to rest two or three times. He had been in a quarter of an hour, when, in stooping, his mask came off, and he could not replace it exactly. Soon after the accident, he felt a slight giddiness, and he attempted to cry for help and reach the ladder, but he fell back suffocated. He was immediately drawn up, and recovered his senses when he got to the open air. The accident which occurred in this last experiment was entirely owing to the displacing of the mask, and is rather a confirmation of its efficacy, especially in cases where it is not necessary to remain long in such pits. It is on this account that Dr Gosse particularly recommends the use of his masks to those who descend into foul air to attempt to save others who are already overcome by it.

From my own experience I can testify that these masks can be worn without any inconvenience; and I would have no hesitation to expose myself, when protected by one of them, to the most noxious fumes. I therefore feel a pleasure in making known in this country of manufactures, in which Sir H. Davy's life-preserver has proved of such inestimable value, the discovery of an ingenious foreigner, which will be found also an efficacious life-preserver in dangers of a different kind.

ALIENUS.

Edinburgh, Sept. 1817.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COUNT MONTLOZIER, AUTHOR OF THE MINERALOGY OF AUVERGNE, ON THE MINERALOGY OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF EDINBURGH.

It is only since I visited Edinburgh that I have been able to form a true conception of the nature of the mountain rock I had so often heard of under the name *Whinstone*, and to which the denomination *Greenstone* has been in my opinion improperly applied. It differs from greenstone in formation, greenstone being entirely primitive, whereas whinstone is of a secondary formation: Further, it associates with limestone, coal, and sandstone, minerals with which greenstone is not connected. Calcareous spar, too, forms an ingredient of whinstone, but not of greenstone; and, lastly, greenstone is scratched with difficulty with the knife, but whinstone easily. The whinstone of Scotland appears to be a Neptunian production. It does not occur in the volcanic regions of Auvergne, in the Vivrais, in Italy, nor, in general, in Germany, but it has a resem-

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blance to the rocks at Coblentz, which extend to Andernach.

Near Edinburgh, it is to be observed passing into sandstone, and containing red hematite. Salisbury Craig, the rocks at the Custom House, on the sea-shore, to the westward of Newhaven, I found to be of whinstone. Arthur Seat, on the contrary, is truly volcanic, being composed of basaltic lava, scoriæ, tuffa, and other similar rocks.

During the few days I remained at Edinburgh, I visited the beautiful range of hills named the Pentlands, in the investigation of which, I was much assisted by Professor Jameson's description in the Wernerian Memoirs. The Professor considers that range as of Neptunian formation, an opinion I cannot subscribe to; on the contrary, I believe that the rocks are decidedly volcanic. These rocks, to me, did not present any regularity of arrangement, —nothing like what we observe in the basaltic ranges of Saxony and Auvergne; hence I learn, that, although the environs of Edinburgh abound in volcanic matter, much of it belongs to the last revolutions of the globe. A principal rock in the Pentland range is felspar, which often contains scales of mica, and crystals of a substance like actinote. It is the same rock I met with in the mountains of the Puy de Dome and Puy de Chopine, and which has engaged much of the attention of Saussure and other naturalists. It is of a volcanic nature, as is also the case with the amygdaloids and scoriæ met with in the same range of hills.

The Braid-hills and Blackford-hill, which are composed of varieties of compact felspar, appear to have experienced terrible commotions; in the Braid-hills, in particular, the agitations must have been tremendous. The hills, in a mineralogical view, very much resemble the Puy de Dome in the south-west of France, which is now universally considered as of volcanic origin.

AN EXPLANATION OF THE NOTATION EMPLOYED IN THE SCALE OF MAELZEL'S METRONOME.

MR EDITOR,

Ries, and many of the best modern composers of music, prefix to each movement a number, indicating the time in which they intend it should be performed, according to the scale of an instrument, called Metronome, or rule of measure, which gives an exact measure of time corresponding with each number. As, however, this instrument is somewhat expensive, and is little known here, our performers, in general, do not understand the notation of the scale, and are not able to avail themselves of the accurate directions of the several composers who use it. It will therefore probably be agreeable to your musical readers, to have the language of Maelzel's scale explained to them, which, as it is exceedingly simple, may be done in a few words. The indication consists of a musical character, such as a minim, crotchet, or quaver, with a number affixed, which determines the number of minims, crotchets, or quavers, which the composer means should be performed in a minute; or that the minim, crotchet, or quaver of that movement, should have a length equal to the fraction of a minute divided by the number specified.

Thus, "𝅗𝅥 60 Maelzel's Metronome" means, that the minim in the movement to which it is prefixed, should be a second or the sixtieth part of a minute, or that sixty minims should be performed in one minute. In the same manner, ♩ 100 expresses, that each crotchet should be the hundredth part of a minute, or that a hundred of the crotchets should take a minute to perform; ♪ 75 indicates 75 quavers to be performed in a minute. It is evident how much more precise and accurate this notation is, than the vague and indeterminate terms Adagio, Andante, Allegro, and Presto, in common use; and we attach the greater value to Maelzel's invention, because we have often had occasion to regret our ignorance of the time in which composers wished their movements to be performed, especially the older masters, such as Corelli, in consequence of a change which has taken place in the meaning of these terms. Now, the time of a piece indicated, according to Maelzel's Metronome, is fixed for ever, and for every country, and there will be no excuse for sing-

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as drawling out Andantes, till they set us asleep, or for fiddlers rattling through an Allegro, so as to defy any ear to discover the fine combinations of the author. By this notation, the time intended by the author is precisely fixed; and the performer who does not adopt it, must submit to the imputation of incapacity, or of vanity in conceiving himself a better judge of the spirit of a composition, than he who wrote it. Formerly, it was otherwise. When Mr Bremner published some of Corelli's concertos for the harpsichord, he pointed out this evil, and endeavoured to remedy it in regard to them. "The terms *Adagio*, *Largo*, *Allegro*, &c. usually affixed to musical compositions, being in themselves rather vague, it were to be wished that some more determinate means could be found to transmit to posterity the exact time in which every species of music ought to be performed, as then the compositions of the present age might give more pleasure centuries hence, than we now receive from the harpsichord music of former ages. For instance, the editor being, in the year 1762, at a sale of music which belonged to the late Dr Pepusch, purchased Queen Elizabeth's virginal book, which, though exceedingly fair and intelligibly written, and the compositions unquestionably excellent; they being by Tallis, Bull, Bird, and other great masters with whom England then abounded; yet, owing to the seeming irregularity of divisions by bars, and a want of knowing the true times in which the different pieces should move, the best masters are now at a loss how to execute them with propriety. For, should the popular tunes, of which there are many in this collection, be begun as slow as we now think the nature of the melody will allow, yet the variations set to them by those masters increase in difficulty as they go on; and at last become so rapid, that if the execution of those days did not far exceed that of the present, it must be impossible to perform some of them uniformly throughout in equal time." Mr Bremner endeavours to fix the time more precisely in regard to Corelli's concertos, by indicating how many seconds or half-seconds were given to each bar by Pasquali, an excellent violinist and skilful leader of a band, who was allowed to have entered into the true spirit of Corelli's music. Thus, in regard to the celebrated eighth concerto, the first movement is characterized as *Vivace*, and is to be performed at the rate of three long half-seconds in a bar; the second is marked *Grave*, and is four seconds in a bar; the third *Allegro*, is four longish half-seconds in a bar; the fourth *Adagio*, is eight seconds; the fifth, another *Allegro*, is four short half-seconds; the sixth is the same as the fourth; the seventh another *Vivace*, is three short half-seconds; the eighth another *Allegro*, two short half-seconds; and the last *Pastorale*, is four short seconds in a bar. This was no doubt a great improvement, but it was not sufficiently precise, for it only fixed accurately two times, seconds and half-seconds. These correspond with 60 and 120 of Maelzel; but all the other numbers between these, and greater and less than these, were still vaguely indicated by the addition of the qualifying epithets long and short. Dr Crotch adopted a very philosophical method of determining the time, with great precision, by marking the length of a pendulum which would vibrate in correspondence with the minim, crotchet, or quaver. Its application was also exceedingly simple. A leaden bullet was affixed to a piece of tape or ribbon, upon which the inches were marked, measuring from the centre of the bullet. By taking hold of the tape at the number of inches designated to be the length of the pendulum, and setting it a swinging, we have the exact time of the minim, crotchet, or quaver, in each vibration. We do not know why this method has not been generally used. Perhaps, when the pendulum is long, it is inconvenient, and not easily managed by unskilful hands. To explain its notation, we give the following table of corresponding times, as measured by pendulums of different lengths, and the number of Maelzel's metronome, or vibrations in a second, which, though not mathematically, is sufficiently correct.

Pend. inches	5,	7,	10,	12,	14,	17,	30,	39,	56.
Metronome	160,	140,	120,	100,	90,	80,	90,	60,	50.

The Maelzel's metronome we have seen is itself a species of pendulum, which is made to vibrate different times by means of a sliding weight upon a portion of the rod continued upwards beyond the point of suspension, and

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furnished with a graduated scale upon which is marked the number of beats it makes, when the upper edge of the weight is adjusted, so as to be opposite to it. It is furnished with an escapement, and its motion is continued by a weight hung over a pully. The scale extends from 50 to 160. This instrument answers its purpose in some respects, but is not without inconveniences. It is somewhat complex, and may be put out of order. It is not portable, but requires to be fixed against a wall, and at a considerable height. Also the constant loud *ticking* which it makes at every beat, though perhaps esteemed an advantage by some, who cannot measure equal portions of time in their mind, is disagreeable to those who have a real feeling for music, and will render those who use it constantly, too mechanically uniform in their performance, as it will not permit that judicious acceleration and retardation of the time according to the genius of the passage, in which a great deal of the expression evinced by a performer of taste consists. A simplified metronome, made by Mr Allan, an ingenious instrument-maker in Lothian Street, is free from this objection. It is of a small size, perfectly portable, and is set upon the top of a piano-forte, a table, or any horizontal surface. It has no escapement, and makes no ticking, and needs no weight to continue the motion. In fact, it is nothing but a stand carrying a short pendulum with the rod protracted upwards beyond the point of suspension, having the upper limb graduated with an adjusting weight, moveable upon it. It might be made with a scale of any extent. That which we saw was only graduated from 60 to 120, or from seconds to half-seconds; but it was easy to apply it to any interval of time by halving it or doubling it. Thus, if the direction was to play at the rate of 140 quavers in a minute, we have only to adjust the instrument to 70, which will then give the time of the crotchet; or if we are told that the quaver is 50 in a minute, 100 will give the time of the semiquaver. On the other hand, as this instrument does not tick or beat the time, it will be of no use to performers who are irregular in their time, and is only intended to determine the time in which the movement is to be played, by the performer counting a few of its vibrations as the pendulum passes the stand.

PHILHARMONICUS.

Edinburgh, Sept. 1817.

AN ACCOMPT FOR MRS MARGARET SMYTHE'S WEDDING CLOATHS, DEC. 1701.

[The following *accompt* of wedding clothes, in the year 1701, forms an appropriate sequel to the View of the Change of Manners among the higher ranks in Scotland during the course of the last century.—(See pages 10 and 111.) The lady whose matrimonial paraphernalia are thus minutely given, was a daughter of the honourable house of Methven, and wife of Thomas, afterwards Sir Thomas Moncrieff of that Ilk, Bart.]

Imprs. for 20 ells of Holland for six shirts -	L. 55	2	6
It. for leace to the six shirts	17	4	0
It. for linnen to be six shirts	23	2	0
It. for 4 ells of striped muzelon for the shirts necks and hands -	7	12	0
It. for Holland for 6 sute of night cloaths -	2	12	6
It. for muzelon to the night cloaths - -	9	12	0
It. for ane head sute and ruffles of cutt work	77	3	6
It. for another laic'd head sute - -	68	1	4
It. for 6 muzlon cravats	33	11	6
It. for camrick for 6 hand napkins -	15	15	0
It. for muzlon for 3 head sutes - -	12	12	0
It. for edgings for 3 head sutes and ruffles	28	3	0
It. for laice for a sute of night cloaths -	16	10	6
It. for muzlon for four aprons and keaming cloaths -	22	2	6
It. for Holland for 2 aprons	8	3	6
It. for ane hood and skerff	33	0	0
It. for white dames for toilett to the table	10	16	0
It. for ane callego night gown - -	14	8	0
It. for bastin for under petticoats and vestcoats - -	11	0	0
It. for two pair of worset stockins - -	4	16	0
It. for ane pair of silk stokins - -	8	2	0
Carry over,	L. 479	9	10

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Brought forward, L.	479	9	10
It. for two pair of laic'd shoes - -	8	2	0
It. for ane pair of mariskine shoes and slippers - -	3	5	0
It. for drink money to the shoe maker -	0	14	6
It. for gloves - -	2	0	0
It. for ane silk under coatt	32	8	0
It. for 2 muzelon hoods	9	15	0
It. for 2 suitt of ribbans	12	13	8
It. for brides garters -	10	0	0
It. for brides favors -	8	5	0
It. for a suitt of ribbans for night cloaths -	7	10	6
It. for ribbans for shoe strings -	1	9	0
It. for washing of gloves	0	7	0
It. for laices to the stayes	1	13	6
It. for gallouns to the finest coat - -	18	0	0
It. for cherry gallouns	14	0	6
It. for 2 peasboard boxes	1	12	0
It. for powder, knittings, and pins - -	3	0	0
It. for combs -	1	10	0
It. for 2 belts -	2	18	0
It. for wears -	2	4	0
It. for 2 fans -	4	6	6
It. for silk dames for a vest coat - -	7	4	0
It. for a lineing to her blew gown -	30	13	10
It. to Mrs Stratton for shewing of the cloaths	20	12	0
It. for her woman in drink money - -	2	18	0
It. to children in the school for sweet meats -	2	4	0
It. for sarge to a coatt	0	12	0
It. to Mr Houp the tayllor	32	0	0
It. to the taylour for his gloves - -	5	16	0
It. to his man in drink money - -	2	18	0
It. for four ells of knittings - -	0	5	4
It. to the baxter in drink money - -	0	7	0
It. for her pockett att the mariage, and to the musick - -	34	8	0
It. given to the wrytter for the contract 5 guineas; It. to his man halfe a guinea	78	2	0
It. to John Hepburn for goun, petticoat and lining - -	201	14	0
Carry over, L.	1044	18	2

Brought forward, L.	1044	18	2
It. to baillie Blackwood for goun, petticoat, and lining, camrick for two best heads suits, sattin and alamod for covering her stayes, and lineing her toilette and riding cloaths -	263	1	6
It. to the taylour for making the riding cloaths	11	0	0
* L.	1318	19	8

Endorsed, "Accompt delivret be Mr David Drummond for Mrs Margaret's wedding cloaths."

ON THE ORIGIN OF THE NATION AND NAME OF THE PICTS. BY FINN MAGNUSEN, PROFESSOR, &c. &c. COPENHAGEN, 1817.

(Continued from Page 129.)

SOMEWHAT later than the Scandians, have *Scotts* and *Attacots* crowded from Ireland into Caledonia, † and subdued large tracts of the north-westerly part. They have certainly been more warlike than the Aborigines, and, therefore, obtained the dominion over them; but, as the remaining tracts were already peopled by the valiant and powerful Scandians, or chiefs who were in alliance with them, and instructed by them in the art of war then in use, the Scots were not able to overturn the states and confederacies established by them. *Trenmor*, of the nation of the *Scotts* or *Attacotts*, was the first founder of

* That our southern readers may not accuse this lady of extravagance, which so alarming a sum total might seem to justify, we must beg leave to inform them, that the money is Scots, the real amount in Sterling being L. 109, 18s. 3d. 8-12ths.

† The *Fir-Bolg*, or *Belgæ*, were the most powerful nation in Ireland in the days of Fingal; and hence it may be conjectured, that Trenmor's Celtic tribe was driven from that island to North Britain, where they attained to great power and distinction; and probably he afterwards reconquered a part of his ancient dominions, and erected it into a kingdom for one of his sons.—Their descendants would have been once more driven out by the Belgic king Cairbar, had not Fingal come to the assistance of the Celts.

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the powerful kingdom of Morven in the Highlands; and princes of the districts possessed by the Scandians, (such, for example, as *Crathmo Craulo*,) entered into alliances with him, or became his feudatories. The Druids seem, however, to have formerly extended their influence over the country which Trenmor conquered. The *Son of Loda*, whom, in the war with him they called to their assistance, was probably from Orkney, or some other part where the Scandians had the dominion. The succour which the Hierarch obtained, shews both the agreement of their religion with that of the Scandinavians, and their near neighbourhood to these, or others of the same race.

If both Jutland and Norway have, (according to the conjectures of Vedal Simonson,* and other eminent literati,) before the great deluge which, about 600 years before the birth of Christ, changed the condition of almost all Europe,† formed one continent with Great Britain,—the similarity between the language and manners of the Celts and Scandians, as well as the resemblance remarked by Tacitus between the Caledonians and the Germans, (Teutonic or Scandic people,) from whom they are supposed to be descended, may be easily accounted for;* and if this is granted, it ap-

* In his "Survey of the oldest and most remarkable periods of our National History, Part 1. Vol. II. Copenhagen, 1813."—Compare Schioening on the "Origin of the Northern Nations, Soroe, 1769, p. 232."

† According to this hypothesis, Jutland has been united to England or Scotland by what is called the Reef of Jutland, and Scotland again to Norway, in the direction in which the Shetland and Orkney granite rocks stretch across the sea. In like manner, some are of opinion, that England has been connected with Belgic Gaul. All this being admitted, we may easily conceive how such multitudes of Belgæ came to England and Ireland, that the Scandinavians spread land-ways even to Scotland, where they met with Celts who had come thither from another quarter; how these different nations mixed with each other; and whence the Cimbri and Celts bore so strong a resemblance to each other in speech, manners, names, &c. Hence also, we may the more readily comprehend in what manner the language of Norway spread itself over the whole Lowlands of Scotland, and why the Scandinavians, who arrived by sea at a later period, met with so friendly a reception from the inhabitants of the coast, who were of the same original stock, and spoke the same language. Thus, the early settling of Scandinavians in Scotland may be supposed to have taken place at two different periods, and probably at both times in the same manner. History does not reach so far back in time as to furnish us with certain information concerning these important occurrences. The mighty volcanic convulsion of Nature, which, according to Eggert Olafsen, and other natural historians, heaved up the mountainous island of Iceland from the bottom of the ocean, must have been sufficient to produce the awful deluge which made such havock upon the nearest coasts. Schioening has (p. 234) brought forward this conjecture, which appears to me rational, but which I shall leave to more skilful geologists to examine and decide upon.

The separation of Britain from the Continent can, best of all circumstances, account for Dr Borlase's opinion, (Antiquities of Cornwall, p. 4,) that the present name of the island was first conferred by the Phœnicians, from the Hebrew BRIT, *breaking off or separating*, and TAN, which, in the Punic, Indian, Persian, and Celtic [*and the author might have added, in the old Teutonic*] languages, signifies *land*; and it is remarkable, that the Scandinavian name *Bretland* or *Britland*, has the same meaning; as *Britia* or *Brita* in Icelandic signifies to detruncate, detach, or *break* off and divide, and BRIT accordingly has the same import as in Hebrew. The voyages of the Phœnicians in the North of Europe began so early in time, that they may have had certain knowledge of the separation of the island from the Continent. How many words in the Punic language (probably a mixture of the radical languages of Sem and Japhet) have a resemblance to the Scandinavian, may partly be seen from the collection in Rudbeck's Atlantica.

Sicily was once separated from Italy by a similar eruption of the sea, according to Claudian:

"*Trinacria quondam*
Italiæ pars una fuit, sed pontus et æstus
Mutavere situm; rupit confinia Nereus,
Victor et abscissis interluit æquore montes.
De Rapt. Proserp."

* "Rutilæ Caledoniam habitantium comæ, magni artus, Germanicam originem adseverant." In Walker's "Letter on the Picts," &c. (in the *Archeologia Britannica*, Vol. I.) among other excellent remarks concerning the different origin of the Scotish Lowlanders from the Highlanders, he has also this, in reference to the forementioned passage in Tacitus: That "the Highlanders, with the exception of the Hebridians, (who are chiefly of Nor-

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seem to me highly probable that the doctrines of the Druids (which, according to Cæsar's testimony, were spread to Gaul from Britain) came to the latter country from Scandinavia. Hence the striking concurrence of the faith of the Druids with that of the *Drottar*, and the sacrifical and other monuments, which both have left us.

About 120 years before the Christian era, the Cimbric deluge * (as it is called) obliged the inhabitants of several northern regions to emigrate in large bodies in search of new settlements; and it is probable that some hordes of them may have fled, over sea, to the coast of Britain. The northern men in later times made frequent expeditions in the North Sea; † and we see from Ossian, with what mighty fleets the Norwegians and Jutes in Fingal's days, and earlier, invaded Scotland and Ireland.

As well the aboriginal Caledonian Britons, as the Scandian and Hibernian settlers, (all bearing a considerable resemblance to each other in language and manners,) in all likelihood made common cause in their wars with the Romans, from the first commencement, till the times of Caracalla and Fingal. The tyranny which the Romans exercised over those whom they subdued, added to the great discrepancy of their institutions, manners, and language, must naturally have been viewed with abhorrence by a people but half reclaimed from the savage state, but whose spirit was bold, free, proud, and unbroken; and this abhorrence produced a union of the different tribes under their particular chiefs, against the common enemy.

Such leagues, however, were formed only against the Romans, or South Britons; for the elder Pictish and Celtic tribes were often at war with each other, and even among themselves.

When Ossian was old and blind, and after his death, Scandinavians from abroad, or their Caledonian descendants, in all probability, made themselves masters of parts of the kingdom of Morven. After Fingal was no more, the heroic character of his subjects also failed; for the bard calls them "little men," timid, and feeble. The melancholy forebodings of Fingal and Ossian, as to the fall of their kingdom and capital, appear, during the lifetime of the poet, to have been partly accomplished. * The men of Morven, nevertheless, seem afterward to have regained a considerable degree of the power they had enjoyed under their former princes, and, (united with the tribes lately arrived from Ireland under the name of *Scotts* and *Attacotts*,) in alliance with the *Picts*, and their dependents, to have attacked the empire of the Romans in Britain.

We have seen, from Ossian, that about 211 years after the birth of Christ, and several generations before, the Orkneys and Shetland, with diverse tracts of the Caledonian mainland, were under the dominion of the Scandinavians. These, however, are mentioned by such Roman historians of these times as have come down to us, only under the names of *Britons* and *Caledonians*, by which appellation they designated the inhabitants of North Britain in general. It was not till afterward that those who lived in the country lying between the two

wegian extraction,) are black-haired; whereas the prevalent colour among the Lowlanders is red or yellow; and it may be observed, that Ossian, who was a Highlander, describes *Cairbar* and others of the *Belgæ*, who were Germans, and the Orcadian *Dunrommath*, who was certainly of Scandinavian descent, as having red hair. Walker also has remarked, that red hair is more common in Norway than in Germany."

* *Vedel Simonsen*, l. c. p. 150, compared with *Schloening*, l. c. p. 199.

† That the *Suevi* mentioned by Tacitus, who, in the first century, cut off the *Usipii*, who were fleeing from Britain, were Norman, is evident from Schloening's History of Norway, part 1. p. 126.

* The forebodings and complaints of Fingal, in the anticipation of a war with the Scandinavian prince Erragon: "Mournful is the battle we must fight with Sora's gloomy king,—I behold thy tempests, O Morven! which will overturn my halls, when my children are dead in battle, and none remains to dwell in Selma," have a singular resemblance to the story told of Charlemagne's grief at the sight of some Nor-men's ships that approached the French coast. He shed many tears, and thus explained the cause of his sorrow: "No wonder I am distressed at seeing these men dare, even in my lifetime, to approach these shores, when I foresee the evils they will yet bring upon my posterity and their subjects."

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Roman walls which were drawn across the Island, were distinguished by the name of *Meatæ*. *Eumenius Rhetor*, in his panegyrics, written in the end of the third, or beginning of the fourth century, first makes mention of the Picts, partly as enemies of the Britons, and partly as a race of men to which the Caledonians belonged. * In the latter half of the fourth century, *Ammianus Marcellinus* † distinguishes the Caledonians into *Picts*, (a nation composed of *Dicaledonians* and *Vecturiones*,) *Scotts* and *Attacotts*. It is thus that he speaks of the irruption of the barbarians into the Roman province in Britain, in the reign of Valentinian and Valens: "Picti Saxonesque et Scotti et Attacotti ærumnis vexavere continuis." Here the Picts are mentioned before and with the Saxons, which latter may have invaded Britain by sea, although they already had a footing in the Caledonian possessions of the Picts and Scots, and are often, as *Suhm* and *Schioening* have distinctly shewn, confounded by the Roman writers with the Scandinavian nations, who, at that time, were undoubtedly more powerful at sea than the inhabitants of Lower Saxony.

This connection of names, like several others already quoted, seems to intimate some sort of relationship between the Picts and Saxons. Ammianus afterwards informs us that this confederation of the barbarians had reduced the Britons to the lowest state of misery; *Nectarid*, their coast admiral, ("*Comes maritimi tractus*,") ‡ was slain, and *Fullafaudes*, their general, surrounded by his enemies. In order to relieve the Roman provincials in this emergency, Valentinian sent his general Theodosius to make war upon "diffusam variarum gentium plebem et ferocientem immaniter." These different nations are thus denominated by Ammianus, "Picti eo tempore in duas gentes divisi, Dicaledones et Vecturiones, itidemque Attacotti, bellica hominum natio, et Scotti." Is it not reasonable to consider these two names as designating the ancient Caledonians or North Britons, who had joined the *Vecturiones*, or strangers who had arrived in their country, and were so called by the Romans, from the circumstance of their having come in ships? * In this case, the name, like *Vector*, *vectarius*, *vectura*, *vectuarius*, may be derived from the verb *veho*. Before this time, the *Scotts*, and probably also the *Attacotts*, had come from *Ireland*, to which country several ancient authors give the name of *Scotia*, before Caledonia obtained that name; but, perhaps, under one of these names is here understood the other's dependents or confederates. Heron (in his *Hist. of Scot.* Vol. I.) thinks, that Attacotts means (*ath-na Scottic*) "other Scotts;" † which might point out the same connection mentioned by *Eumenes*, between the Caledonians and Picts, and thus the name would imply the feudatories or confederates of the Scotts.

This inquiry into the origin of the Picts I have here brought forward, to illustrate Ossian's intimations concerning the different nations by which, in his time, Scotland and its subject islands were inhabited, and, at the same time, to shew how far his accounts coincide with those of later historians. In order not to depart too far from my particular purpose, I shall not here launch out into diffuse details, or farther multiply, from the abundance of evidence that remains, the proofs upon which my hypothesis, as to the northern derivation of the Picts is

* The well known words, *non dico Caledonum*, or *non Dicaledonum aliorumque Pictorum sylvas*, which have occasioned so much controversy, seem to me to be best explained in this way, that the *Caledonians* or *Dicaledonians*, (probably from the Latin particle *dis* or *di*,) were in fact somewhat different from the Picts, but belonged, nevertheless, as feudatories or confederates, to their nation.

† *Rerum Gestarum*, *Lib.* 26, *cap.* 4, and *Lib.* 27, *c.* 8.

‡ Already, about the close of the third century, had the Romans sent the *Comites littoris Saxonici*, as they were called, into Britain, to defend them against the attacks of the nautical adventurers of the North.

* As I have before suggested, the Normen probably continued for a long series of years to arrive in small numbers successively upon the coasts of Scotland, where they were amicably received by the Pictish population, who owned a common origin, and who probably welcomed them as seasonable auxiliaries against the Romans in South Britain, where the Scandinavians were not permitted to approach the coasts.

† In the Icelandic or Old Norse language, *Ættar*, *Attar*, or *Atta Skottar*, signifies *people of a Scottish descent*, or *race*.

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grounded.* Yet I cannot altogether pass over in silence the two important circumstances which have had so much weight with those who hold a different opinion; namely, the derivation of the *name* of the *Picts*, which may have been Celtic or Latin, and their usage of tattooing or *painting their bodies*, which many suppose never obtained among the nations of Scandinavian origin.

(To be continued.)

OBSERVATIONS ON THE NEPAULESE AND GOORKHAS, BY A GENTLEMAN RESIDENT AT ETAWAH, IN INDIA.

The Sepoys, who have returned from Nepaul, bring very curious accounts of the manners and customs of the inhabitants, which differ much from those of the plains. A Jemadar of the 25th regiment of native infantry, who commanded the escort of Lieutenant Boileau to Ratmandee, after staying there four months, on being relieved from his duty, has come home on leave to his village, only a few miles from hence. After Lieutenant Boileau's visit to the rajah, and return to his tent, the rajah sent him several trays of presents, which, instead of consisting as usual of cloths, silks, shawls, sweetmeats, &c. were composed of a pig, (a *pig* as a present in India! O horrible!) rice, spice, and all kinds of grain, &c. a horse being the only thing among the presents which agreed with the forms of other courts. The escort of thirty Sepoys were exercised and admired; but, when the Goorkha battalions are exercised, no spectator is allowed to be present, and running footmen are sent out in all directions to prevent intruders. The houses are all of wood, two, three, and four stories high; the meanest person having one of two stories. Calling themselves Hindoos, dividing themselves into the same four principal branches, or castes, viz. Brahmia, Chuttry, Bise, and Sooderr, and reading the same shasters and pooranas as the Hindoos of the plains, they yet sacrifice buffaloes to the Deity, and afterwards banquet on the remnants of the offering. I need not remind you how contrary this is to the tenets of the Hindoos *below*; although some of them, such as Rajpoots, some Brahmins, and others, eat flesh, they would all die before they would touch that of a cow or a buffalo. Their brethren *above* (of the hills) eat also goat's and sheep's flesh; but in this last have made a nice distinction; those born with *short stumps* of tails, being a separate species, are eaten, whilst those with tails of the *ordinary length* cannot be touched!

The chastity of the original Nepaulese women is of the lowest order; they have, of course, no *Purdeh*. (I ought to be more explicit, and say, they are not kept in concealed apartments, restricted from going out.) One woman is often wife to three or four brothers, the eldest child belonging to the eldest brother, the second to the second, and so on. Their chastity seems also to be held in little veneration, for the wife conceals not her amours from the husband, and the lover walks into the female apartment under the husband's nose. Should the poor husband object to such intercourse, he repairs to court, where the seducer is fined five rupees. These last remarks are to be understood as referring to the native Nepaulese only, and not to the conquerors of the country, the Goorkhas.

Though our newspapers have thrown doubts on the water having been poisoned, in order to prevent the advance of our troops, this Jemadar, my informant, was present at the taking of some out of a rivulet, which had been concealed under large stones, and in consequence of the drinking of which several of the carriage elephants died. Their military skill also (though not their *bravery*) seems doubtful, though so much talked of and praised. This indeed the officers as well as the Jemadar allow, that the natural obstacles presented by the country were so great, and gave such a decided ad-

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* All those denominated Picts were not descended from Scandinavians alone, as these may have mixed with the Celtæ, or aboriginal Britons; although the former had in a great measure the ascendancy, and gave name to the nation. It is thus that here in the North, in the remote ages of dark antiquity, the Goths were blended with the *Jotner* or *Joter*, (*Ettins* or *Jutes*,) who were probably in part *Finns* and *Celts*, &c. Although the great body of the people in Denmark is Danish, it nevertheless contains a mixture of naturalized Germans, Swedes, French, &c. who all go under the common name of Danes.

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vantage and superiority to the defendants, that had skill, with these advantages, been combined with their valour, it would have been impossible for our troops to have advanced and performed the achievements which have signalized their irruption. Such is the account of the Jemadar, and a Sepoy, to whom I give entire credit, as their account of several transactions fully correspond with those which have been laid before the public from various other quarters. My friend illustrated his remarks as to the difficulties of the country by saying, that his battalion and three others made a forced march through a defile to take possession of the head of the pass, "and if two old women had only sat on the summit, and rolled down large stones, every man of their party would have been annihilated."

MURTHLY CASTLE, THE SUPPOSED ORIGINAL OF TULLY-VEOLAN.

MR EDITOR,

HAVING noticed in the Border Sketches which appeared in your first number of the new series, that the author had traced several features in Traquair House, which led him to suppose that mansion and its vicinage to have been the *Study* of Tully-Veolan, I beg to offer a few remarks.

Although a particular taste and style of laying out grounds may have been very prevalent at one time in Scotland, and thus the appearance of many gentlemen's houses may be somewhat similar; yet, after a good deal of observation, I never found a place so exactly to answer Waverley's description as Murthly Castle, in Perthshire, the residence of Sir George Stewart of Grandtully, Baronet. We approach the house through a double avenue of limes, the tallest and thickest I ever witnessed. The venerable turrets overhang the terrace of the garden, which is laid out entirely in the Dutch style, as Bradwardine's is described to be. The dovecot adjoining the house, the fountain, gate, and, in short, every particular, entirely coincide.

The families of Traquair and Grandtully having long been intimately connected and allied, some of the ancestors of the present possessors may have agreed to plan their grounds in a similar style. Murthly Castle possesses another strong feature of resemblance, which Traquair House cannot pretend to, viz. local situation. It is just below the entrance into the Highlands, (as Bradwardine Castle was,) and I am of opinion that the Pass of Ballybrough, in Waverley, can be no other than that immediately above Dunkeld, leading into the Highlands.

There is an air of grandeur about Murthly which I never saw surpassed. Its natural beauties are certainly very great;—situated on the banks of the Tay, five miles below Dunkeld, and directly opposite the beautiful wooded rock of Stenton. From a grotto or moss house on the banks of the river, lately erected with great taste by Mr George Stewart, son of the present Baronet, may be seen the celebrated hills of Birnam and Dunsinnan, the former of which has for a long series of years been in the possession of the family; and towards Dunsinnan, from this grotto, is a view which might be the boast of Italy.

The Castle of Murthly is in some parts very old, having been built at different times; and, owing to its height, size, and situation, it has a singular and grand appearance, and is seen at a great distance. Connected with it, at the distance of a few hundred yards, by an avenue of fine yews and cypress, is the chapel, and within it the family burial-place, in which are several very handsome marble monuments, one of which is adorned with the arms of the numerous relations of this ancient and noble branch of the House of Stewart. I trust you will pardon me for saying so much on the subject of Murthly, which, however, is a place well worthy of all that can be said or written in praise of its beauties. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

* D *

Edinburgh, Sept. 30, 1817.

SKETCH OF THE LITERARY HISTORY OF EDINBURGH.

MR EDITOR,

I HAVE frequently thought, that there is no subject of more interesting speculation than the circumstances which have raised this Northern Metropolis to its present high reputation as a seat of learning. Indeed, I have always considered such

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histories as among the most amusing and instructive of literary compositions. They combine, in a manner peculiarly pleasing, the powerful interest of local partialities, with the charm of philosophical disquisition, and while they gratify the rational curiosity of contemporaries, they transmit also valuable information to those who are to follow us. On so extensive a subject, however, it is impossible, within the compass of a letter, to offer more than a few imperfect and very general observations.

It is universally known, that this city is indebted for its first celebrity, as a seat of learning, to the high reputation of its medical school. It is not, however, so generally understood at how very recent a period this distinction commenced; and those who have not previously considered the subject, will probably hear, with some astonishment, that the first person who ever filled any medical chair in the University of this city, was the grandfather of the present Professor of Anatomy. It was, I believe, about the year 1725, that this eminent individual received his appointment; but the lustre which he threw around the University, by the excellence of his lectures, naturally directed the attention of its patrons to the advantages which might arise from a more extended establishment. The different departments of medical science were, accordingly, soon assigned to distinct professors, who quickly obtained also those subsidiary institutions which were necessary for giving practical efficacy to their labours; and in this manner was begun, at a comparatively very recent period, that splendid career of medical instruction which has now raised the University of this place to the very first rank among the seminaries of Europe.

The philosophical lectures at that time delivered here were, of course, in many respects, different from those which are given at this more advanced period. The mathematical discoveries of former ages had, indeed, been transmitted to modern times, (as it has been well remarked,) like masses of pure and native gold. And we cannot suppose that the mathematical prelections of this University have ever been given with superior effect than when the chair of this department was filled by such men as Gregory and Maclaurin. The philosophy of Newton, too, which came nearly perfect from the hand of its founder, was early adopted with enthusiasm in this University; and it is a remarkable fact, that perhaps the most beautiful elucidation which it has ever yet received, was given in the well known work of Maclaurin, before Newton himself had long quitted the field. While in these respects, however, the merits of this city, as a school of science, were, even at the beginning of the last century, nearly as high as at any succeeding period, it is obvious, that those other departments of general knowledge which have a more intimate connection with the business of life, and with the pursuits of literature, must then have been in a state of comparative imperfection, which it requires some exercise of reflection to estimate at the present period. The truth is, that the lectures on philosophy at that time delivered in this, as in every other European University, were chiefly composed of imperfect illustrations of the doctrines of Locke, respecting the nature and transmutations of human ideas,—interspersed with accounts of the method of syllogism, which was still regarded as a great instrument of knowledge,—varied occasionally with more valuable materials from the writings of Bacon, or of more ancient authors,—and terminated, commonly, by a very tedious account of the useless distinctions of the Jurists and Civilians, respecting the rights and duties of individuals and nations. There was, at that time, no regular foundation of science, amidst the multifarious materials thus collected, on which the student might proceed with advantage to erect a superstructure of solid learning. And every succeeding teacher seems to have adapted his plan rather to those habits of study in which he had previously indulged, than to any purpose of general utility, or to any leading principle of established knowledge.

Amidst that keen agitation of systems and opinions, however, which now began very generally to prevail, and which was, indeed, the natural result of that gradual enlargement of the human understanding which, since the revival of letters, had been slowly going forward,—the state of science, which I have now described,

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could not long continue. It seemed only necessary that the attention of mankind should be powerfully directed to the imperfection of the opinions hitherto embraced, in order to induce them to start with alacrity into a better track of philosophical research; and the useful impulse thus required was soon decidedly given. It was, as is universally known, about the middle of the last century, that Hume began with unrivalled acuteness to speculate on the origin and nature of ideas, and to form his speculations into a system of scepticism, which alarmed the minds of all sober inquirers. A host of opponents was accordingly roused, who combated, in all the quarters to which their influence extended, the obnoxious doctrines which had been thus fearlessly advanced. And the natural effect of this agitation of opinions was the ultimate refutation of doctrines which were subversive of knowledge, and the discovery of some fundamental principles which have proved of much importance to the progress of science. It is, in fact, almost needless for me to observe, that the ablest and most successful of these opponents of Hume, not only completely refuted the unphilosophical assumption on which the controversy was founded, but by reforming fundamentally this department of knowledge, recalled the attention of metaphysical inquirers from the vague speculations in which they had formerly indulged, to a system of patient reflection on the operations of the mind, and a judicious application to this unemployed field, of the method and rules of the inductive philosophy. What is chiefly, however, to my present purpose to observe is, that the fame of this University is now inseparably associated with the triumphs and success of this new philosophy; the splendid character of its ablest illustrator has, in fact, long given to this city one of its most powerful attractions in the eyes of strangers; and that fond attachment to metaphysical pursuits, which has long been considered as characteristic of this nation, has now been directed into a career of speculation which promises to afford the most beneficial results to every department of human knowledge.

While science was thus undergoing an important alteration in one of its fundamental departments, corresponding changes were taking place in other kindred branches. The French economists had already directed their speculations to the interior of the fabric of human society, and the investigations of Hume, in this new department, had also shed an auspicious light on some of the most difficult problems which these discussions embraced. It was at this period that the author of the Wealth of Nations submitted to the public his immortal work, the fruit of many years of political research, which, in his native town, at a short distance from this metropolis, he had devoted exclusively to this great undertaking. It was not merely, however, by the fact of its publication in Edinburgh, that this magnificent monument of the genius of its author has added to the celebrity of this seat of science. The doctrines it contained, which have had so remarkable an influence on some of the most important concerns of mankind, were soon anxiously incorporated with the philosophical disquisitions of this University. And the fact is well known, that Edinburgh continued, during many years, to be one of the best frequented and most efficient schools for this new department of knowledge.

The earlier part of the last century, so remarkable for the changes already considered, was further distinguished by one of the most important improvements which science has ever received, and by which a new direction was very generally communicated to the pursuits and studies of academical bodies. I here allude to the discoveries of Linnæus, to whose enlightened views the scientific world are so deeply indebted for a system of doctrine, which may not perhaps continue to be acknowledged as the most perfect exposition of the arrangements of Nature, but which has unquestionably had a most important influence on the subsequent progress of knowledge, and will ever remain an indisputable evidence of the stupendous powers and industry of its author. It is well known to those who are even moderately acquainted with the scientific history of the eighteenth century, that these improvements were immediately adopted by every university of eminence in Europe,—that the collections of those bodies were every where arranged upon the new principles which Linnæus had unfolded,—

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and that the examination of the various provinces of nature, began now to be conducted with an ardour and success which was quite unparalleled in the history of the world. I do not pretend to insinuate that this city has ever been remarkable for the attention of its students to this delightful portion of the great field of knowledge. Yet so animating a spirit of scientific research could not well exist in every neighbouring country, without being also felt in some degree by the scholars of this ardent and inquisitive nation, howevermuch their predilections or habits might have previously indisposed them for this particular pursuit. The Professorship of Natural History (on which subject no lectures had ever formerly been given in this University) was accordingly conferred about this period on a naturalist eminently qualified for the duty assigned him, and although many of the other universities of Europe were already far advanced in that career of improvement on which the scholars of this country were only preparing to enter, this appointment yet deserves to be mentioned, as an important addition to a plan of instruction, which, in this respect alone, had been formerly deficient; and still more perhaps, as laying the foundation of a future progress in the study of nature, to which, from some obvious symptoms, we seem entitled to look forward with very confident expectation.

Perhaps, however, the greatest of all the improvements which science received during the eventful period of the preceding century, was that which took place in the department of Chemistry; and it will ever be considered as a fact, honourable to this city, that the most valuable of these improvements were derived from a distinguished member of this University. It appears, indeed, from the facts which are known respecting the progress of the chemical discoveries of Dr Black, that almost all his great speculations had been brought to maturity, while he held the Lectureship of Chemistry at Glasgow. But it was the celebrity he had acquired by these splendid investigations that secured him, on the resignation of Dr Cullen, the vacant chair in this University; and it is well known that no professor ever acquired a higher celebrity for his public prelections, or a wider renown for his original investigations. "The number of his pupils (says Dr Thomson) underwent a progressive and gradual increase, during the whole time that he was professor. His lectures were always listened to by his audience with inexpressible delight. His voice was low, but sweet and distinct. His language was simplicity itself, but always apposite and never vulgar. His experimental illustrations were correctly suited to the object in view, and carried full conviction to the mind of the spectator; there was no glare, no parade, no showman exhibition, but an Attic elegance and simplicity highly delightful to a refined and cultivated mind." The researches of Black afford, perhaps, the finest models of experimental investigation, next to the optical inquiries of Newton, which science contains. The excellence of his public prelections appears from the above account of them, and, indeed, from the concurring testimony of all who heard them, to have been proportioned to the value of his original discoveries. We cannot wonder, therefore, that, with such various excellence, the merits of this professor should have been very widely acknowledged, and that the splendour of his character should have shed something of its lustre upon the city which was the immediate theatre of his labours.

I am far from pretending, in this rapid sketch, to enumerate all the eminent individuals who have contributed to the glory of this seat of learning. My only object, in fact, is to present to your readers the following remarkable, but I apprehend well founded, conclusion, that not only has the University kept pace in the liberality of the views by which its members have been guided, with the vast advances which science has been making during the preceding century, but that there is scarcely one of the great improvements which have been made during that period, which has not a more direct and intimate connection with the high fame of this seminary. It is thus universally known, how much the science of medicine has been indebted to the original views which have distinguished the members of this school; the mathematical department is well known to have been filled, during the long period of more than a century, by a succession of some

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of the ablest men whom this country has produced; the philosophy of the human mind may here almost be considered as in its native soil, from the captivating illustrations which have been given of its doctrines, by the most eloquent of the members of which this University can boast; and the splendid career of chemical discovery, which has given such lustre to modern science, may refer to the original investigations of Black for one of the first steps in its progress. I will not presume to speak with decision upon a subject which I have not examined with any very particular attention; but I certainly am not at present aware that any other university can boast, with truth, of a series of more splendid distinctions; and, when it is added, that its members have been as eminent in their character as teachers, as celebrated for their original discoveries, we can no longer wonder at the high fame of this University.

It is not merely, however, to the fame of its University that this city is indebted for the reputation it enjoys. It is well known, that, from a very early period of the preceding century, a strong predilection for literary pursuits had very generally diffused itself even among those classes of the community who are less directly connected with the business of education; and those who have heard of the intellectual character of the conversation of this metropolis, or of the variety and excellence of its literary productions, are in no danger of confounding these distinctions with the reputation or efficiency of its public schools. I do not know, indeed, a finer field for the historian of literature, than that which is afforded by this metropolis during the greater part of the past century. Much has, no doubt, already been accomplished, for illustrating this interesting portion of our history, by the writers of the biography of some eminent individuals; but a vast harvest yet remains for the patience and curiosity of future inquirers; and distant posterity will probably regard with interest those literary treasures which we now overlook. It is sufficient, however, at present to remark, that this city is known to have contained, about the latter part of the period alluded to, as bright an assemblage of illustrious men as ever appeared, perhaps, in any city or age. From the list which has been preserved of the names of those who constituted what was called the Select Society, it appears to have been composed of a greater proportion of all the talent and learning of that time, than could perhaps have been collected in any other single spot; and from this great association of ability and information, we also know that a crowd of eminent authors appeared, whose works are still regarded as among the finest productions of British literature. It is scarcely necessary that, for substantiating this statement, I should now recal to the recollection of your readers the names of Hume, Robertson, Henry, Fergusson, Blair, Home, Kaimes, Monboddo, and Mackenzie; these, however, it ought always to be remembered, are only some of the more conspicuous names, while the activity and successes of the lighter troops will be found to have pretty generally corresponded with the more conspicuous prowess of the leading champions. Numerous associations, also, for the encouragement of learning, were about the same time established in this metropolis: these were sometimes composed of men who have since risen to the very first rank in the republic of letters, and, altogether, they laid the foundation of a system which has now been carried in this city to an extent unexampled, I believe, in any other country. These associations, however, had the good effect of frequently bringing together those ingenious individuals who had devoted their leisure to the cultivation of literature, by which they supported and encouraged that ambition of excellence which is necessary for the production of works of merit; and also of diffusing among the mass of the community the tastes and prepossessions of these more private associations. They have contributed powerfully to form that relish for the pleasures of literary conversation, which is now considered as the peculiar distinction of this metropolis.

It must be confessed that this city possesses many advantages for the diffusion of such a taste, which are not enjoyed in the same degree by any other portion of the British empire. It is remarkably free from that spirit of business which never fails to communicate to conversation in a trading town so strong a tinc-

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ture of mercantile habits. It ought also to be observed, that not only the students by whom the University is attended, but the numerous practitioners and retainers of the law—men of course who are naturally attached, in a certain degree at least, to literary pursuits—are mingled with the other inhabitants in the intercourse of society, and, of course, influence to a very considerable extent the prevailing tone of conversation. This city is also, as being the capital of the country, the natural resort, during a considerable part of the year, of the fashionable world, the members of which are usually fitted to relish those lighter exertions of intellect, and that easy discussion of literary works, which is permitted by the forms of polite society. The consequence of all this is, that it is impossible to mingle with any of the politer circles of this metropolis, without meeting either with some man of letters, the nature of whose pursuits is pretty generally known, or with some younger scholar, devoted with all the enthusiasm of his years to the prevailing studies and discussions of the time; or, lastly, with some of those fashionable loungers who are slightly acquainted with every prevailing topic, and by whom the perusal of books is chiefly considered as a necessary preparation for polite conversation. It is easy to see, that a society so constituted must differ essentially in its predilections and habits from ordinary associations of active individuals; and that discussions of the merits of literary works, and of the character and views of distinguished authors, will naturally prevail in conversation. It is impossible to name any other city of this empire, in which society is placed in exactly the same circumstances. The two seats of the English Universities are filled almost entirely by those who are devoted to the studies of the place, and can scarcely, therefore, be said to contain any other society but that of scholars by profession. The capital of the empire itself is not only by far too extensive in its range, but too much engaged in other concerns, to permit the prevailing tone of its conversation to be guided by the influence and taste of its men of letters; while the other cities are either entirely commercial, or are prevented by other obvious circumstances from rivalling the fame of this Northern Metropolis, which, by the limited nature of the society it contains, as well as by the other advantages already stated, is preeminently adapted to sustain with effect the reputation of a literary city.

There is one circumstance peculiar to it which deserves here to be more particularly considered. From the circumstances of Scotland, a considerable proportion of its gentry has always been trained to the study of the law, either with the view of practising it as a profession, or as a preparation for some other employment in which legal knowledge is requisite. The individuals so educated have commonly many advantages for the prosecution of study, which are not enjoyed in an equal degree by those who aspire to other liberal professions; and they are connected, at the same time, by their rank, with all the higher circles. It is evident that so numerous a body of ambitious individuals, with every advantage of education and leisure, must always have contained a very considerable share of the learning and talent which this country possessed, and could not fail to exert a very decided influence upon the tastes and opinions of those around them. Some other circumstances, however, of a more accidental nature, have of late contributed in a remarkable degree to raise this portion of our fellow-citizens to that high literary rank which they are now generally admitted to hold. The transcendant talents of some eminent individuals have been particularly instrumental in throwing around their profession a more than ordinary splendour; and the consequence has been, that, while the Scottish bar has become almost proverbial for the talent which it contains, an ardent emulation has also been awakened among those who are only looking forward to this profession, which cannot fail long to continue the same honourable distinction.

It is, in fact, by the successful compositions of individuals of this body, in the lighter departments of literature at least, that the character of this city, as a seat of learning, is now popularly estimated. It will be readily understood that I allude at present to the distinguished labours of that literary association, who began about the commencement of the present century to promulgate the decisions of an enlightened criticism with unexampled

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authority and effect; and to the no less popular productions of that eminent individual, whose fame is now so inseparably connected with the high character of "his own romantic town." I am well aware that the celebrity of a city which has acquired an established reputation as a seat of learning, must ever be traced to some more permanent causes than the accidental character of some fortunate individuals. Yet surely the work first alluded to will always be regarded as a very splendid monument of the learning and talents which this city contained at the commencement of the present century; while to the last mentioned author we are indebted, in no ordinary degree, not only for the lustre which has been thrown around this city by his wonderful talents, but still more for having given to a country which is peculiarly adapted for such a distinction the high celebrity of classical association, and for having identified the charms of his delightful productions with the scenery and the manners of this interesting land.

In a future communication, I shall endeavour to present your readers with a sketch of the present state of the science of this metropolis.—Meanwhile, I am, Mr Editor, yours very respectfully, P.

BORDER SKETCHES.—No. II.

Popular Superstitions.

"He might se him besides
Oft in hot undertides,
The king of Fairi, with his route,
Come to hunt him al about,
With dim cri and shrill bloweing, &c.—
Ac no best thai no nome,
No never he nist whider they bi come."

Romance of Orfeo and Heurodis.

Dryburgh.—On my first visit to this place, where at no very remote period my ancestors had resided, I was very much struck with the appearance of the old Abbey. 'Twas autumn and twilight—to me the most delicious season of the year and hour of the day,—and the scene before me was more rich, romantic, and enchanting, than any thing I had ever before witnessed:—the wild and arabesque aspect of the ruins, half-shrouded in luxuriant wreaths of fruit and foliage,—the last beams of departing day gilding the shattered turrets,—below, in shade, the antique moss-grown tomb of my forefathers, still venerable, though broken and defaced,—the bright broad harvest moon gleaming through the encircling wood, and the murmur of the Tweed beyond—all was in unison, solemn, soothing, and sequestered; and I was falling into a train of reflections, appropriate enough to the impressive character of the scenery, but more serious than would suit my present subject, when I was humorously recalled (by a casual circumstance which I need not here rehearse) to the recollection of a story of the "Fairy Folk," which my worthy grandsire was wont sometimes to relate. It had occurred in the immediate vicinity of the spot where I then stood; and so congenial seemed the scene to the poetical character and habits of these elegant sprites, that I almost expected to hear again their unearthly bugelet ringing through the broken arches, or see their tiny faces peeping from the ivy-latticed windows.

It happened that the village school of Dryburgh was undergoing some repairs, and the teacher and his pupils were in the meanwhile accommodated with the use of the parish church for their diurnal meetings. One fine summer evening,—according to the report of my informant, who was one of the scholars,—while the setting sun was shining bright and beautiful through the large western window, a shrill whistle on a sudden shook the casement, and instantly a myriad of tiny figures, dressed in green, rushed in through the window, passed in a train along the gallery, "fistle, fistle, fistling," as he expressed it, and dancing over the pews with much agility and apparent merriment, and again as suddenly disappeared at the opposite end of the edifice. This vision, as the narrator affirmed, was not only witnessed by himself, (and he was a man who could not possibly be suspected of wilful fiction,) but was also distinctly seen by the other scholars and their astonished pedagogue. This occurred about 1720. The courteous reader may account for the phenomenon in the mode most agreeable to himself,—either poetically, as a real descent of Oberon and his merry imps,—or philosophically, as a visual illusion, probably analogous to the Fata Morgana

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frequently witnessed on the coast of Calabria, and likewise, it is said, in some parts of Ireland.

The popular belief in the existence of Fairies still remains almost unimpaired in some of the more remote parts of the Borders; though it is generally allowed that they are now very seldom *seen* in the southern parts of the island. The opinion current among the peasantry is, that, after the land had been purged from popish superstitions and prelatic corruptions, the "gude neighbours," as they were usually called, found it expedient likewise to retreat to the Highlands and "other siclike" unenlightened and uncivilized regions. A similar cause is assigned for their disappearance by Cleland, the Cameronian poet, who, as might be expected, speaks of them somewhat rigidly, though, at the same time, evidently with a degree of hankering partiality, not unlike that with which the pious mountaineers of the present day still regard these old "neighbours," in spite of all the clerical fulminations which have been so frequently launched against them. Cleland, alluding to the classical attributes of certain Border streams, whose poetical "vertue" he with some justice ascribes chiefly to the haunting of these aërial visitants, says—

"For there, and several other places
About mill-dams and green brae faces,
Both elrich Elfs and Brownies stayed,
And green-gown'd Fairies daunc'd and played:
When old John Knox and other some
Began to *plott the baggs* of Rome,
They suddenly took to their heels,
And did no more frequent these fields:
But if *Rome's Pipes* perhaps they hear,
Sure for their interest they'll compear
Again, and play their old Hell's tricks," &c.

Yet, though thus proscribed, and exiled from our Scottish Arcady, the Fairy-folk are still supposed to pay, now and then, a passing visit to their old haunts, and to keep up a sort of shy correspondence with a few favoured individuals. A most worthy old woman of my acquaintance, who, for the greater part of a century, resided in a spot very well known to me, has long held much familiar and kindly intercourse with them. Indeed, their intercourse with old Nanzy could scarcely be otherwise than of a kindly description, for she possessed such an inexhaustible fund of good nature, and moreover entertained such a true respect for them, that the "Brown Man of the Moors" himself, the most malignant sprite of the elfin kind, could scarcely have had the heart to do her an injury. Nanzy has frequently met with fairy processions when she chanced to be late or early out of doors; and has more than once received presents from her aërial neighbours;—among other things, very nice rolls of fairy butter have occasionally been laid down before her on the grass when she had occasion to go to market. But she was too good a Christian, and too well aware of the insidious nature of such gifts, to use this in "ony meltith," though she applied it without hesitation to other household purposes. The place where she resided was an old ruinous hamlet, containing only five habitable cottages, all of which were tenanted *separatim et divisim* by old unmarried women, except one that was occupied by an aged weaver and his wife. It stood at the bottom of a black heathy hill, was dreary and desolate in appearance, and remote from even the cross-roads of the country; and was very well known to be *haunted* itself, as well as several places in its immediate vicinity. At a little distance down the valley lay a marshy recess, traversed by a moorland stream called the Laike, which, from time immemorial, had been haunted by the unhappy ghost of an unchristened infant, which a cruel mother was said to have murdered there at some former period. Many persons have *heard* this wailing spectre—when a school-boy, I once enjoyed the horrible satisfaction of fancying I heard its unearthly cry myself—but nobody was ever known to have *seen* it except old Nanzy. She "gat a sight o't ae morning," she said, "just afore the skriegh o' day, as she was gaun through the Laike on her way to the market: Hearing its eirie erlish mæne, she lookit up the wæter, and just gat a glim o't as it was hovan away like, i' the mist, wi' its bit wee waesome hands streekit out, and its elfish body swathed like a corpse in the dead cleeding."

Still nearer the old hamlet, at about the distance of half a Scotch mile, stood an old farm-house, which, about 60 or 70 years ago, is said to have been visited by a *bogle* much more uncommon, as well as more familiar, than

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the "Greetin Bairn o' the Laike." This being was neither fairy, ghost, nor brownie, but appears to have partaken somewhat of the peculiar attributes of all the three. I have often, when a boy, listened with intense and fearful interest to the strange and mysterious tales related of this "elrich incubus," but the purport of these was altogether so undefined and shadowy, that I cannot now detail them with any degree of accuracy or distinctness. I remember, however, that this creature was said generally to take the appearance of an ancient man, wild, withered, dwarfish, and deformed; that it played a number of malicious tricks to such as gave offence to it; that it never on any occasion was known to speak; but at length one winter evening it came and took a seat among the family, who were sitting round the kitchen fire,—when a servant girl who was churning having offered it a bowl of cream, it thought fit to fly up the chimney, and was never since seen nor heard of. When I met with the account of Gilpin Horner for the first time in the notes to the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," I was very forcibly struck with the resemblance of that elfish sprite to this anomalous *ghaist*, and I have ever since believed, that the "Bogle of Blaiklaw-Myres" could be none other than the redoubted Gilpin himself, or one of his near relatives.

Though the inhabitants of the old hamlet never made any objection to these and other *bogles* who frequented their neighbourhood, nor even seemed to be any way averse to a peaceable intercourse with them, they by no means exhibited the same degree of forbearance in regard to *witches*. They were once put to a sore trial on this point. One of the ancient female inhabitants having died, the landlord let the cottage she had occupied to two old *single women* who lived together. These poor creatures had the misfortune to be strongly suspected in the neighbourhood of using the *black art;* which probably arose from the circumstance of one of them being very crabbed in her temper, and the other rather crazed in the head. They ruled their new neighbours for a season most despotically; for none dared to quarrel with them; till at length the old weaver plucked up courage, held a council of the other crones, and forthwith went to the landlord, and declared in their name and his own, that, unless the witches were put away next term, or else "*scored aboon the breath,*" all the other cotters would leave the place. It was in vain to reason on the subject,—and the unhappy beldames were obliged to *flit*. This occurred only about a dozen years ago. I was myself acquainted with the supposed witches, one of whom (the crazy one) rather encouraged the belief of her magical endowments. She was generally known by the name of *Whistling Ann*.

While on this subject, I may notice that, between Traquair and Selkirk, I passed Plora Wood, distinguished for a remarkable feat of the Fairies, who are said to have carried off from this place a little girl, and after keeping her a considerable time, and shewing her all the wonders of Fairyland, left her asleep, as the story goes, upon the same spot from whence they had stolen her away. Upon this legend, Mr Hogg is understood to have founded his very beautiful and enchanting tale of Kilmeny.

The pastoral braes of Plora seem to have been peculiarly favoured by these and other beneficent genii. The following story was related to me by a lady of very superior intelligence, who was long resident in that neighbourhood, and remembers hearing the matter talked of as a very recent and well authenticated occurrence. A family, who resided on the banks of the Plora, were assembled one evening at family worship, and the old goodman had just concluded his customary pious duty, when the youngest girl, a child who had been absent unnoticed, rushed breathless into the room, and, in a perfect rapture of delight, called upon them to "come a' and look!—for the maist beautifu' Leddy o' a' the world was comin sailin doun the glen!"—Such was the eagerness and even ecstasy of the child, that the call was instantly obeyed, and old and young followed her straight out of doors to see this delightful vision. They looked up the glen as she pointed—but in vain: nothing unusual could be seen or heard,—till a sudden and dreadful crash behind them made every one look instantly round, and explained at once the benevolent mission of this lovely Lady of the Wood—the house, which had just been emptied

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of all its inmates, had fallen flat to the ground!

This last story of the Flora has been given to the public in a poetical form, in some stanzas inserted in a late number of the Edinburgh Annual Register. The verses were written, I believe, by a youthful bard, now abroad, who has already given excellent pledge of no ordinary degree of poetical genius, and who, as I am happy to perceive, is also one of your contributors.

These gleanings, though of no great value in themselves, may perhaps prove interesting to such persons as are curious to trace the history of national manners and popular superstitions, even down to our own times. Such readers as desire a more intimate acquaintance with the Fairies and the other genii of our glens and mountains, I would beg leave to refer to the "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border," as containing every thing that is most curious and interesting on the subject,—if it were not indeed almost absurd to suppose, that any person who may take the trouble to read these notices, can be still unacquainted with that most entertaining and deservedly popular work. E.

Sept. 30, 1817.

SOME ACCOUNT OF A SINGULAR RACE OF NEGROES LATELY DISCOVERED IN THE REMOTE MOUNTAINS OF THE INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO.

Communicated by John Crowfurd, Esq.

It is a singular fact, with which we have but very recently become acquainted, that many of the countries of the Indian Archipelago are inhabited, in their remote mountains, by a race of Negroes wholly distinct from the copper-complexioned race with lank hair, which alone are seen by voyagers. The Negroes are in the lowest stage of savage life, whilst the greater number of the Malayan race have made considerable advances in social improvement. Major John Macinnes, an officer of the Indian army, had the curiosity, while residing at Prince of Wales Island, to examine one of those savages, sent over to him for the purpose, from the opposite coast of the Malayan Peninsula, by the Raja of Queda, the sovereign of that country. The following short extracts from the minutes of examination may amuse our readers, and we can vouch in all respects for their authenticity, as they were handed to us by an intimate friend of Major Macinnes, who is himself known to be, after Mr Marsden, the best European Malay scholar in existence, of which he is at present affording a substantial proof, in a classical Malayan translation of the Bible, which is in great forwardness.

"Kumbar, a Semang, (the Malayan name of the tribe,) sent to me for examination by the Bandahara of Queda, arrived here on the 18th of October 1815. He has the usual appearance of an African Negro, but his stature does not exceed four feet nine inches, and he is not less than the rest of his countrymen. Being almost perfectly naked, I ordered him some clothes. The first article that presented itself was an uniform jacket, and he proceeded to put his feet into the sleeves, until better instructed. He says he is an inhabitant of the mountain Jerrai, where he has a wife and two children. Of his particular tribe, the whole number amounts to no more than 25 individuals; and the whole of the Semang race, in that quarter, do not exceed the number of 400. They have no fixed residence, but wander up and down the mountain, sheltering themselves by a temporary covering of leaves or grass. From their most ordinary residence on the mountain, Kumbar observes, that they see Penang, Queda, Perak, and Siam. They subsist on roots, deer, wild hogs, monkeys, tygers, rhinoceros, and, indeed, all the beasts and birds of the forest, except the elephant, which they have not strength or skill enough to destroy. The Semang of Perak, more numerous and powerful, destroy the elephant, and eat the flesh. The countrymen of Kumbar use arrows poisoned with the ipoh. Half their number always watch whilst the others sleep, a precaution chiefly intended against the numerous tygers which, in their turn, prey upon them. The Semang carry on a traffic with the Malays, receiving from them a little salt, and rice for Dammar bees-wax, and rattans, elephants' and rhinoceros' teeth. This in-

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tercourse is carried on with caution and suspicion, as the Malays, with the constant injustice of the strong to the weak, omit no opportunity of reducing the miserable Semang to slavery, a condition from which the whole race is only secured by their retreat among the recesses of the forests and mountains. No form of government can be traced among the countrymen of Kumbar, but the more improved tribes of Perak, who can kill the elephant, have a king. Each Semang imparts a share of his store of provisions to the rest. They have hardly any religious notions. Kumbar says, that spirits are sometimes heard in the night, and that on their warning they remove from one part of the mountain to another. They make children, he added, cry, and they bring on diseases. They offer no religious service to those spirits, but they fear them. Kumbar had a bowel complaint when he was examined by me, but he would not admit that it was brought on by a Kamoj, or spirit, fearing, I think, that I should ascribe his doing so to a conviction of some crime or fault. For some time he could not comprehend the questions that were designed to draw from him his ideas respecting a future state. He first asserted roundly that death was the end alike of the good and the bad; they decayed in the earth when they were buried, and there was no more of them. He added, however, that sometimes the good became *spirits* which protected their living friends, and persecuted their enemies. Kumbar seemed hardly to have any means of reckoning time. He could not tell when he left his native mountain, but by saying it was when the durians were ripe, (an indigenous fruit.) Every little tribe of the Semang has its own language, and they are mutually unintelligible to each other. The Semang of Queda and Perak carry on the little intercourse there is between them in the Malay language. The Semang dialects are all distinct from those of the yellow-complexioned race, which bear to each other so singular a resemblance. The poor Semang of Jerrai count as far as *two* in their own tongue, and when their transactions become *more complex*, they have recourse to the Malayan numerals as far as ten."

REMARKS ON GREEK TRAGEDY.

(*Iphigenia in Aulide* EURIPIDIS.)

WHATEVER station we may be disposed to allow to the tragic writers of Greece, when we compare them with those of modern Europe, it is certain, that they abound in situations well suited to the purposes of tragedy. The object of this noble species of composition is to soften and amend the heart by the exercise of the sympathies; and we must conclude, that those subjects are best adapted to it which we see most productive of this effect in real life. No man ever entered the house of mourning without the excitement of his most amiable feelings, or left it without moral improvement. Pity, more than any other passion, purifies and refines the nature of man; and when we are happily able to relieve the sufferer, we experience the most delightful sensations of which we are susceptible. He is himself an object of compassion, who would not prefer the blessings of the widow and the fatherless to all the selfish gratifications that wealth can purchase. There is a music even in the voice of the aged beggar, by the way side, returning thanks for an alms, that vibrates along the most delicate chord of the heart. No man ever heard a widowed mother lamenting the death of an only son, or a father that of a daughter, in the bloom of her existence, the last of a numerous offspring, without the consciousness of being more disposed to acts of self-denial, and kindness, and generosity, than at other times. On such occasions, selfishness and all the unamiable passions are extinguished, and benevolence is the ruling principle of the mind, in which self-approbation balances the pain that arises from sights of distress. These are the operations of nature in real life, and, in witnessing scenes of fictitious sorrow, the mind is regulated by the very same laws. This is a truth, of which the epic and dramatic poet ought never to lose sight, and the Greek tragedians display great judgment in their faithful adherence to it. The subjects in which they delight have their foundation in the relations of kindred or of country, where they have an opportunity of introducing sentiments of the kindly affections that find a response in every

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heart. Even when they conceived characters of a sterner cast,—beings hurried on to the perpetration of crimes by guilty love or profligate ambition, or fiendish revenge, they softened the harshness of the features by a colouring of the gentler and more amiable passions. In this they followed nature, in whose range we seldom or never find human beings of unredeemed wickedness, or with hearts closed against all the avenues of friendship or attachment to some individual of their species. The man, who, under the dominion of a bad passion, is guilty of an atrocity, may be a good father, or son, or brother, or friend, and may be, on other occasions, capable of efforts of a lofty virtue, or an endearing benevolence. Electra, who, like the demon of revenge, instigates her brother to the murder of her mother, and in the moment of frenzy, can listen with delight to her dying groans, is a kind and tender sister; and the most beautiful passage of the play is that in which she laments the supposed death of Orestes. It was chiefly, indeed, by the exhibitions of the domestic charities in domestic affliction that they drew the tears and extorted the applause of an assembled people; but among the many legendary tales and historical facts which they chose as the ground-work of their fables, full as they are of incidents that beget pity or admiration, no one, perhaps, is more suited to excite both, than the story of Iphigenia. It is purely domestic, and its chief characters are a father, a mother, and a daughter. The reverses are sudden and terrible, and the affliction the most severe that can be imagined.

The fleet of the Greeks, on their voyage to the siege of Troy, had been long detained at Aulis by contrary winds. The troops at last began to murmur, and the prophet Calchas, who had been consulted, gives it as his response, that, unless Iphigenia, the daughter of Agamemnon, were offered as a victim on the altar of Diana, they must for ever remain in inactivity at Aulis. Among the Greeks it was considered shameful not to sacrifice every thing dearest in life to the claims of country, and the father, after a severe conflict with himself, yields to the importunities of the assembled kings and armies. It was necessary to use a stratagem to bring Clytemnestra and Iphigenia to Aulis, and he sends a messenger to Argos to inform his queen that he had betrothed her daughter to Achilles. She was delighted by the intelligence, and lost no time in repairing to the camp, accompanied by her daughter, for the purpose of solemnizing the nuptial ceremony; and they soon discover that Iphigenia, instead of obtaining a royal husband, was doomed to a cruel death.

It will appear, at first sight, that a story like this must be fruitful in incidents of great interest, or deep pathos; and we shall soon see how the poet has availed himself of the facilities it affords.

The first scene is a night-piece.

Agamemnon repents of the message he had sent to his queen and daughter requesting their attendance in the camp, quits his couch at midnight, and writes another letter forbidding them to leave Argos. He calls an aged attendant, to whom he complains of the cares of royalty:

Ag. Come forth, old man.
At. I come in haste, my Lord,
The orders of my sovereign to obey;
For age is ever wakeful, and sharp cares
Sit on my lids.
Ag. What star is that which blazes
In the mid-sky, beside the Pleiades?
At. 'Tis Sirius.
Ag. How still the midnight season!
The birds forget their music, and the winds
Lie slumbering on the bosom of Euripus.
Not even the distant murmur of a wave
Falls on the ear to interrupt the silence.
At. Why wakest thou at this untimely hour?
No sound is heard in Aulis, on the walls
The sentinels are hushed and motionless.
Ag. Old man, Oh! thou art happy, thou and all
Who glide through life, unknown, inglorious,
Whose lowly path is free from cares and dangers;
I envy thee thy quiet and repose.
But princes are the very slaves of glory.
At. Are they not honoured and obey'd in life?
Ag. Their honours are deceitful, and the fruits
Ambition offers, are they not, when tasted,
Full of repentance, bitterness, and sorrow?
At. Why waterest thou that letter with thy tears?

This letter is sent, but does not reach its destination, being intercepted by Menelaus, whose interest it was that Iphigenia should be sacrificed. She and her mother arrive at Aulis, and meet Agamemnon; and, at the

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interview, a conversation passes between him and them, full of affection and tenderness on the one side, and suppressed anguish and perplexity on the other.

I. Mother, be not offended, if I run
To cast me on the bosom of my father.
C. My venerable lord, my king, my husband,
We come obedient to thy royal will.
I. Let me shed tears of joy upon thy neck;
'Tis long since I beheld thee; how I love
Again to gaze in fondness on thy face:
Say thou dost love me.
A. Yes, I do love thee;
Thou art the best and kindest of my children.
I. Oh! might I look for ever on thee thus.
A. One sentiment of joy unites our hearts.
I. It was too kind in thee to bring me hither.
A. I do not know if it were kind or not.
I. What aileth thee? nay, look upon me, father,
As thou wert glad indeed to see me here.
A. A king and general has many cares.
I. Think not of cares, but give thyself to me.
A. I think of thee alone, of no one else.
I. Let a sweet smile of love dispel the gloom
That hangs upon thy forehead.
A. I do joy
To see my child.
I. Yet tears flow from thine eyes.
A. Because a cruel separation waits us.
I. I understand thee not, my dearest father.
A. *(Aside)* I understand thee, and I pity thee.
I. I would indulge in merriment to please thee.
A. *(Aside)* Alas, I would be silent if I could.
(Aloud) I thank thee for thy kindness to me, child.
I. Oh! father, stay at home and bless thy children.
A. Fondly I would, and grieve because I cannot.
I. Nay, quit the battle spear, and think no more
On Menelaus' wrongs.
A. Others must fall
Beneath the load of woes that overwhelm me.
I. Tedious has been thy sojourning at Aulis.
A. And still the adverse winds detain us here.
I. Where do they say, thy foes the Phrygians dwell?
A. Oh! would that Priam's son had not dwelt there.
I. And dost thou undertake a distant voyage?
A. Thou too shalt voyage to an unknown land.
I. Oh! Father, would that I might go with thee.
A. Yes, thou shalt go to a far distant country.
And thou shalt owe thy journeying to me.
I. Shall I sail with my mother or alone?
A. Alone, without thy father or thy mother.
I. Tell me to what far country thou dost send me?
A. These maidens must not know thy destiny.
I. Oh! mayst thou be victorious in the wars;
And soon return to us from Phrygia.
A. I first have here to do a sacrifice.
I. In that the priests will guide thee.
A. Thou shalt know,
For thou shalt stand beside the holy fount.
How happy art thou in thy ignorance!
Give me one sad embrace and thy right hand,
For thou shalt be long absent from thy father.

Iphigenia quits the stage, and Agamemnon endeavours to persuade Clytemnestra to return to Argos, and that he himself would superintend the celebration of the marriage of his daughter with Achilles; and after an altercation upon the subject, the scene closes. In the next, Clytemnestra by accident meets Achilles, and salutes him as her future son-in-law. His ignorance of her meaning leads her to suspect that guile had been practised upon her. The aged servant, from whom Menelaus had taken the letter with which he was entrusted to her, enters and reveals the intended sacrifice of her daughter. She implores the aid of Achilles, who undertakes her defence. In the following scene, which is the most tender and interesting in the play, Clytemnestra extorts from Agamemnon a confession of the horrid secret, and joins her supplications to those of Iphigenia, who leads by the hand her infant brother Orestes, that he would spare his daughter's life.

Cly. Say, shouldst thou lead thy army to the field,
And leave me in the solitary palace,
How think'st thou I shall feel when I behold
The chambers of my daughter desolate;
And all the haunts she lov'd the most deserted?
When I in solitude and bitter tears,

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Shall weep my fair, my lov'd Iphigenia.
My child, thy father is thy murderer;
And stains his impious hands in thy pure blood.
Oh! by the Gods, compel me not to hate thee;
Thou can'st not sacrifice the child who loves thee
As tenderly as ever daughter loved!
Couldst thou assisting at the sacrifice
Of thy first born, pray that the Gods would grant thee
Aught that is good? Could I at thy departure
Prefer to them my humble supplication,
That they would give thee health and victory,
And bring thee back in safety to thy country?
Nay! They will be avenged of parricide.
An expedition impiously begun
Ends in disaster. How couldst thou return
To Argos and thy children? would they greet thee
With looks of kind affection, if they knew
That thou hadst been their sister's murderer?
I. Oh! father, had I but the voice of Orpheus,
The music that might animate the rocks
To follow me; had I the eloquence
Whose charm might win my hearers to my will,
On that should I rely; but now my tears
Must plead for me, for they are all I have.
I am a suppliant at my father's knees.
Thou wouldst not kill me, I am very young,
And it is sweet to look upon the light,
And the grave is a cold and dreary place.
I was the first who poured into thy ear
The music of a father's name, the first
To whom with bounding heart thou saidst, My child!
I was the first who hung upon thy knees,
And kiss'd thee fondly, and was kiss'd again,
Then wouldst thou say to me, My lovely daughter,
Oh! may I see in thee the blooming bride
Of a great prince worthy of thee and me,
And I would answer while I did embrace thee,
How happy shall I be to tend thy age,
And to repay thee all thy tenderness.
These words are graven on my memory,
But thou forgettest them, and thou wouldst kill me.
Oh! look on me, and give me one embrace,
That with me I may bear the sweet memorial
To solace me at death, if I must die.
My brother, young companion of my sorrows,
Let thy bright tears plead for me with my father,
For he may hear thee and may spare thy sister.
How eloquent his silent supplication!
Wilt thou not pity him and spare my life?
Father, in mercy, pity me, and spare me;
Oh! kill me not, for it is sweet to live,
And to behold the glorious light of heaven.

Agamemnon is overwhelmed with grief, but answers, that the enraged army demanded her life, and that it was impossible for him to save her; and Achilles informs them, that in an attempt to sooth the angry passions of the soldiers, he had nearly lost his life. On hearing this, Iphigenia consents to die for her country. The sacrifice is thus described to Clytemnestra by a messenger:

"*M.* When Agamemnon saw his lovely daughter
Advancing to the altar of Diana,
He turned his head aside and veil'd his eyes
And wept. Near him Iphigenia stood
And cried, father, I come a willing victim,
To lay my body on Diana's altar
An offering for Argos and for Greece.
Oh! ye assembled armies of my country,
Go forth to glory and to victory.
Let no one hold me, for I shall have strength
To stretch my neck undaunted to the knife
Of sacrifice, and shrink not from the stroke."

He further relates, that at the moment the priest had struck the fatal stroke, while the sound was still in the ears of the multitude, Iphigenia vanished from their sight, and was seen no more, and a hind was found panting on the ground in her place.

REMAINS OF A NON-DESCRIPT ANIMAL FOUND IN AYRSHIRE.

MR EDITOR,

About the 1st of January in the present year, there was found, in *tirring* the freestone quarry of Woodhill, in the parish of Kilmaurs, the remains of a very huge animal 17½ feet below the surface, incumbent on a thin stratum of gravel mixed with sea shells, immediately beneath a very adhesive dark clay. The whole, however, was in such a state of decay as to fall in pieces in handling, except one of the tusks, and some small bones similar in shape and size to the ribs of a horse, but none entire above eight inches in length. There were two tusks lying contiguous to each other, but pointing different ways. One of them fell into six or eight pieces in the lifting, but the other was taken

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up nearly whole, and remains still in a hard state. It is about 40 inches long, and nearly 12 inches in girth at an average, at one end being 14 inches, and at the other about 10. In consistency, it is similar to the tusk of an elephant, but a little darker in colour. It is, however, much more curved, as it forms a very correct *arc* of 90 degrees, of which the *radius* is about 24 inches. It weighs 20½ lbs. avoirdupois, and may thus, from the dimensions, be calculated to have about 1.39 of specific gravity. Part of it, being in a softish state at the thicker end, was cut off with a saw, and internally it exhibited a regular series of concentric circles.

The size or shape of this animal cannot be well guessed at, for, except the tusk, there was nothing so entire as to indicate proportion. What appeared in the shape of fragments of ribs seemed, indeed, to bear no proportion to the tusk—unless from being found scattered about as far backwards as 25 feet from it, they may lead to a conjecture, that the animal must have been at least 25 feet in length.

At first it was supposed, from the largeness of the tusk, that it was the skeleton of an elephant. Every other circumstance, however, is against this conclusion. The greater curvature of the tusk is against it; so is its solidity; the tusk of an elephant being hollow. Neither were there any remains of *teeth*. These, it is known, are still more imperishable than tusks. Neither any remains of large *leg* bones. Nothing larger than the rib of a horse—and these so entire as to smell most fœtidly when held to the fire—they even took flame like a candle. Every thing rather indicates the remains of a sea animal. In the museum at Glasgow there is a tusk to be seen remarkably similar, differing in no circumstance, but only that it is a small degree larger. They call it the tusk of a *Mamoth*—rather an imaginary animal, as none alive have been seen in the present age of the world, and none entire ever discovered. The place where this was found is about four miles in a straight line from the sea, and through a country of a very irregular uphill and downhill surface, with a soil that shews no indication of having been formed by the retiring of sea waters. G. R.

October 1, 1817.

PLAN FOR SUPPLYING EDINBURGH WITH WATER.

A REPORT has been presented to the Town-Council by a special committee appointed to consider the mode of procuring to the city an additional supply of water. We can state, on good authority, the following to be a correct outline. The expence required cannot be estimated at less than L. 80,000. Though, in the present state of the money market, a loan to this amount might be effected without difficulty, yet, under a change of circumstances, it might give rise to serious inconveniences. It is therefore recommended, that a joint stock company should be formed, the members of which would subscribe the money in the hope of profit. This plan would put an end to all complaints as to the management of the water-concerns, as it would place them in the hands of the subscribers, who would probably be respectable citizens of Edinburgh; while, at the same time, the Town-Council, from its interest in the capital stock, would be entitled to have several of its members in the Board of direction. The only objection seems to be the additional tax which must thus be imposed on the inhabitants. The sum now required, added to that formerly expended, could not be estimated at less than L. 130,000, while the water-duty, even when equalized, would not exceed L. 4500: thus a considerable additional rate would be necessary to produce even 5 per cent., while it could not be expected that subscribers to a joint stock company would be satisfied with less than 7½ per cent. It is conceived, however, that there can be no reasonable objection to some addition. Those who derive their supply from the public wells, including all the lower classes and those immediately above them, will not be affected by the change. As for the higher and middling classes, if the shares were made small, suppose L. 2 or L. 25, each individual, by taking one, might obtain such a profit as would compensate for the loss he sustained by the additional amount of water-duty.

This report has been approved of by the Council, and directions given for acting upon the plan proposed.

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REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Sibylline Leaves, a Collection of Poems. By S. T. Coleridge, Esq. 8vo. pp. 303. Fenner, London, 1817.

Every reader of modern poetry is acquainted of course with "the Ancient Mariner" of this author. It is one of those compositions, indeed, which cannot be perused without a more than ordinary excitation of fancy at the time; and which, when once read, can never afterwards be entirely forgotten. What we mean, however, more particularly to say at present, is, that this production has always appeared to us in the light of a very good caricature of the genius of its author. It displays, in fact, all the strength and all the weakness,—all the extravagancies and eccentricities,—all the bold features, and peculiar grimace, if we may so express ourselves, of his intellectual physiognomy,—and in forming an opinion respecting the talents which he possesses, this composition may serve the very same purpose which an overcharged drawing of a countenance could answer to one who would form to himself some general idea of the kind of features by which an individual was distinguished. In order to adapt such a representation to the reality of the case, we must of course soften its prominences, and correct its extravagancies; we must raise some parts and depress others; and while we retain the general likeness and grouping of the individual features which compose the countenance, we must reduce the whole to that medium character, from which, amidst the infinite varieties that occur, it is the rarest of all things to meet with any great deviation.

Mr Coleridge, we understand, has sometimes expressed an unwillingness, in so far as the character of his poetry is concerned, to be classed with the other members of what has been called the Lake School; and it is impossible, we think, for any candid mind not to perceive, that, as in some respects the individuals of that association differ essentially from each other, there are also respects in which the compositions of this author are strikingly and most advantageously distinguished from those of all the rest. He displays, it is true, on many occasions, the same sickly sentimentality,—the same perverted disposition to invest trifling subjects with an air and expression of great importance and interest,—to treat subjects of real grandeur in a manner unsuited to their native majesty of character,—and to employ, occasionally, expressions which are merely vulgar or ridiculous, instead of that direct and simple diction which is the most natural language of intense feeling. Along with these peculiarities, however, it cannot be denied, that there are other qualities of Mr Coleridge's poetry which entitle it to a place among the finest productions of modern times. There is, in particular, a wildness of narrative, and a picturesque grouping of qualities and objects, which are in fine contrast to the tameness and placidity of ordinary poetry;—a freshness of colouring and a delicacy of shading, which mark the hand of a great master. Amidst some obscurity and occasional failures, there are also every where to be discovered those incidental touches of true grace which indicate the native riches and power of the artist; and along with all these qualities, there is a fine adaptation, frequently, of the style and manner of our older masters to the improved design of modern times, which sheds a venerable air over the whole composition, and seems to embalm it with all the flowers and odours of the "olden time." These better qualities, it ought also to be recollected, are the more prevailing characteristics of our author's manner, and though there are occasional passages, and even entire pieces, in this collection, which none but a poet of the Lake school could have written, and which, without any intimation of the name of the author, would at once, in the opinion of any ordinary judge, determine his place of residence and habits of fellowship, there is no doubt that there is a still greater number of passages which remind us of an era of far better things.

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Nothing, we apprehend, is more difficult than to characterize correctly the genius of an author whose productions possess so many opposite qualities, and whose excellencies and extravagancies are so curiously blended; especially as the work in which these combinations occur is not one uniform picture of any landscape in nature, or one unbroken narrative of some moral tale; not a regular and didactic poem, nor even a series of poems, marked by one prevailing character, and intended for the production of one common effect; but a great assemblage of unconnected pieces, which differ in subject, in character, and in style,—sibylline leaves, which have long been tossed by all the winds of heaven, and are now collected into one precious fasciculus,—some inscribed with interesting lessons of domestic love and family affection,—some dedicated to enthusiastic celebration of the grand or the beautiful in natural scenery,—not a few devoted to inspired wailings over the fates and hopes of national enterprise,—and a very considerable number merely employed by the poet, for the purpose of being inscribed, as might suit his humour, with the incoherent ravings of his indolence or gaiety. Taking them altogether, however, we shall endeavour, though with a very general and rapid glance, to mark the prevailing qualities of the group, and to enable our readers also, by the specimens we shall select, to form for themselves an estimate of the merits of our author, independent of any judgment we may happen to express.

We have already hinted, that the prevailing characteristic of the compositions of this author is a certain air of wildness and irregularity, which equally belongs to his narrations of events, and to the pictures he has offered of the aspects of Nature. It would require, we believe, a greater expenditure, both of time and of space, than we can at present afford, to say exactly wherein this quality consists. We think, indeed, that an examination of its nature presents a subject of very interesting study to those who delight to speculate on the wonderful varieties of human character, or to mark, with the eye of philosophical discernment, the predilections which determine the excursions of fancy throughout the unbounded range of ideal combinations. Every person, however, may form to himself some analogical representation of this attribute of mind, who can contrast, in the imagination of external nature, the scenery of a rugged and finely wooded landscape, with the drowsy stillness of a champaign country, of which riches and uniformity are the prevailing characteristics,—or the progress of a torrent amidst rocks and forests, with the course of a stream which flows full and unbroken through the placid abundance of a cultivated region,—or the music of the winds as it is modulated and aided in its progress through a landscape of woods and of mountains, with those harmonious adaptations of kindred sounds which science and taste are capable of forming. We cannot pretend, however, to give instances of this quality, which is, indeed, the characteristic attribute of our author's genius, and which, of course, displays itself in some degree in all his productions;—we must, therefore, content ourselves at present with referring such of our readers as think they should, above all things, be delighted with a genius of this order, to the actual productions of the author before us, as the greatest master in this style with whom we are acquainted; and, in the meantime, we shall proceed to notice some other qualities of his works which can more readily be illustrated by quotations and references.

Mr Coleridge, like Mr Southey, possesses, in no ordinary perfection, the power of presenting to the imagination of his readers a correct idea of natural scenery. There is a remarkable difference, however, as it appears to us, in the character assumed by this faculty in the case of these two writers. The delineations of Mr Southey are true to the reality, as if his single object in description had been to represent every hue and variation of the object before him; his descriptions, accordingly, are admirably adapted for affording subjects to a painter; and, indeed, we know not any author by whose writings so many admirable facilities of this nature are afforded. His descriptions, at the same time, are frequently destitute of that far higher character which they might have assumed, if employed only as the ground-work for the production of emotion. We do not see

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wandering round his tablet those countless forms of moral excellence which almost bedim, by the brilliancy of their superior nature, whatever of beautiful belongs to mere form or colours; nor do we so often feel, as in the writings of Mr Coleridge, that his chief object in presenting to us a picture of woods, or waters, or lofty mountains, was to aid him in communicating, with more perfect success, the vivid emotion which was present to his mind; and which, while it adds prodigiously to the effect of his scenes, throws often around them an aërial dimness, that seems to take something away from their merely material nature. This, we apprehend, is one of the chief excellencies of the author before us, and though we might refer in proof of it to almost any page of the present volume, we shall select as a specimen the opening of the "Hymn, before sun-rise, in the vale of Chamouny," in which this peculiarity is at once exemplified and explained:

"Hast thou a charm to stay the Morning-Star
In his steep course? So long he seems to pause
On thy bald awful head, O sovran BLANC!
The Arve and Arveiron at thy base
Rave ceaselessly; but thou, most awful Form!
Risest from forth thy silent Sea of Pines,
How silently! Around thee and above
Deep is the air and dark, substantial, black,
An ebon mass; methinks thou piercest it,
As with a wedge! But when I look again,
It is thine own calm home, thy crystal shrine,
Thy habitation from eternity!
O dread and silent Mount! I gaz'd upon thee
Till thou, still present to the bodily sense,
Did's't vanish from my thought; entranced in prayer
I worshipped the Invisible alone.

"Yet, like some sweet beguiling melody,
So sweet, we know not we are listening to it,
Thou, the meanwhile, wast blending with my Thought,
Yea, with my Life and Life's own secret Joy;
Till the dilating Soul, enrapt, transfus'd,
Into the mighty Vision passing—there
As in her natural form, swelled vast to Heaven!

"Awake, my soul! not only passive praise
Thou owest! not alone these swelling tears,
Mute thanks and secret ecstasy! Awake
Voice of sweet song! Awake, my Heart, awake!
Green Vales and icy Cliffs, all join my Hymn.
"Thou first and chief, sole Sovran of the Vale!
O struggling with the Darkness all the night,
And visited all night by troops of stars,
Or when they climb the sky, or when they sink:
Companion of the Morning-Star at Dawn,
Thyself Earth's ROSY STAR, and of the Dawn
Co-herald! wake, O wake, and utter praise!
Who sank thy sunless pillars deep in Earth?
Who filled thy Countenance with rosy light?
Who made thee Parent of perpetual streams?"—p. 165.

And so on, in a strain of most exquisite poetry, of which we regret that we cannot continue our extract.

A second characteristic of our author's power of description, and one which is intimately connected with that we have already noticed, is the delightful freshness which nature seems to assume whenever the light and sunshine of his genius fall on it. It is never nature merely as invested with form and colour which he paints, but nature breathing all pleasant odours, and glittering with all brilliant lights,—nature as she appears when moistened and sparkling with the rain of heaven, and when all her finest contrasts are exhibited beneath the cloudless radiance of a summer sky. As an instance, we may quote the following lines from the beginning of the poem entitled "Fears in Solitude:"

"A green and silent spot, amid the hills,
A small and silent dell! O'er stiller place
No singing syk-lark ever poised himself.
The hills are heathy, save that swelling slope,
Which hath a gay and gorgeous covering on,
All golden with the never-bloomless furze,
Which now blooms most profusely; but the dell,
Bathed by the mist, is fresh and delicate
As vernal corn-field, or the unripe flax,
When, through its half-transparent stalks, at eve,
The level Sunshine glimmers with green light.
Oh! 'tis a quiet spirit-healing nook!
Which all, methinks, would love; but chiefly he,
The humble man, who, in his youthful years,
Knew just so much of folly, as had made
His early manhood more securely wise!
Here he might lie as fern or withered heath,

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While from the singing lark (that sings unseen
The minstrelsy that solitude loves best,)
And from the Sun, and from the breezy Air,
Sweet influences trembled o'er his frame."
p. 64.

The conclusion of this poem will awaken, we are persuaded, many kindly feelings in the bosoms of those who, like ourselves, have often gained, after a day of solitary wandering among the hills, the summit of the highest mountain in the group, and have felt the sight of the open landscape operate like a sudden restoration to life itself, upon the mind wearied and depressed with intense meditation.

"But now the gentle dew-fall sends abroad
The fruit-like perfume of the golden furze:
The light has left the summit of the hill,
Though still a sunny gleam lies beautiful
Aslant the ivied beacon. Now farewell,
Farewell awhile, O soft and silent spot!
On the green sheep-track, up the heathy hill,
Homeward I wind my way; and lo, recalled
From bodings that have well nigh wearied me,
I find myself upon the brow, and pause
Startled! And after lonely sojourning
In such a quiet and surrounded nook,
This burst of prospect, here the shadowy Main,
Dim tinted, there the mighty majesty
Of that huge amphitheatre of rich
And elmy Fields, seems like society—
Conversing with the mind, and giving it
A livelier impulse, and a dance of thought!
And now beloved Stowey! I behold
Thy church-tower, and methinks, the four huge elms
Clustering, which mark the mansion of my friend;
And close behind them, hidden from my view,
Is my own lowly cottage, where my babe
And my babe's mother, dwell in peace! With light
And quickened footsteps thitherward I tend,
Remembering thee, O green and silent dell,
And grateful, that by nature's quietness
And solitary musings, all my heart
Is softened, and made worthy to indulge
Love, and the thoughts that yearn for human kind."—p. 73.

With respect to Mr Coleridge's powers of description, we have still further to remark, that we do not know any author who possesses a finer talent for relieving his pictures by judicious contrast. As an evidence of which, the reader may take the following passage, the admirable picture in which is merely produced by way of contrast to the dark and barren character of the desart stream that is intended to be described:

"And thou too, desart Stream! no pool of thine,
Though clear as lake in latest summer eve,
Did e'er reflect the stately virgin's robe,
Her face, her form divine, her downcast look
Contemplative! Ah see! her open palm
Presses her cheek and brow! her elbow rests
On the bare branch of half uprooted tree
That leans towards its mirror! He, meanwhile,
Who from her countenance turned, or looked by stealth,
(For fear is true love's cruel nurse,) he now
With stedfast gaze and unoffending eye,
Worships the watery idol, dreaming hopes
Delicious to the soul, but fleeting, vain
E'en as that phantom-world on which he gazed.
She, sportive tyrant! with her left hand plucks
The heads of tall flowers that behind her grow,
Lychnis, and willow-herb, and foxglove bells;
And suddenly, as one that toys with time,
Scatters them on the pool! Then all the charm
Is broken—all that phantom world so fair
Vanishes, and a thousand circlets spread,
And each mis-shape the other. Stay awhile,
Poor youth, who scarcely dar'st lift up thine eyes!
The stream will soon renew its smoothness, soon
The visions will return! And lo! he stays:
And soon the fragments dim of lovely forms
Come trembling back, unite, and now once more
The pool becomes a mirror, and behold
Each wild flower on the margin inverted there"—p. 131.

And so on, with some more beautiful painting; after which the author thus proceeds:

"Not to thee,
O wild and desart Stream! belongs this tale:
Gloomy and dark art thou—the crowded firs
Tower from thy shores and stretch across thy bed,
Making thee doleful as a cavern well."
p. 132.

The pages of Mr Coleridge are not characterized by these fine touches of

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genuine pathos, which, amidst all the ravings of his mystical poetry, give often so inexpressible a charm to the compositions of Mr Wordsworth. Yet is there a pathos of another kind which is very frequent with our author; a gentle and subdued tone of sympathy with human happiness or human suffering; an exquisite feeling of the charities and joys of domestic life; and a just appreciation of the necessity and value of religious consolations to the agitated and wayward heart of man—which communicate to his poetry not the least delightful of its attractions, and which never fail to make us love, while we respect, the author. We may assert, indeed, that the whole tone of our author's poetry is favourable to virtue and to all the charities of life,—and we could quote several beautiful passages of this nature, did not the very copious extracts we have already given preclude us from this pleasure.

We must confess, at the same time, that, along with these excellencies, there are several great and very obvious defects in the poetry of Mr Coleridge. His manner of describing natural objects is too apt to degenerate, as we have already hinted, into that morbid sentimentality which of late has become so general a characteristic of the poetry of this country—he is fond of expressing and illustrating the notion, that

"Outward forms, the loftiest, still receive
Their finer influence from the life within."

And that mystical interpretation of the expressions of Nature, which has become the favourite occupation of Mr Wordsworth's muse, and which has infected the taste of Lord Byron himself, has frequently exerted a seductive power over the fancy and feelings of this still more congenial spirit. We might mention also among the faults of his poetry, a degree of obscurity which sometimes occurs, not to such a pitch, perhaps, as in any instance to render his writings absolutely unintelligible, but sufficiently often to make the reader uneasy lest he should at every step encounter some such mystical passage—and to lead him onward, not with the gaiety and confidence which the song of the poet ought always to inspire, but with that sort of watchful jealousy which is natural to a person who is in the company of one that is disposed to puzzle him. We may mention, in the last place, that there is a good deal of affectation occasionally in the style of our author; he sometimes uses expressions which are altogether unsuitable to the dignity of poetry; and curious inversions of phrase are every now and then occurring, which, to our ears at least, give neither grace nor vivacity to his works. There is one form of expression, in particular, of which our author is so fond, as to have rendered his frequent use of it quite ridiculous,—it occurs in such lines as the following:

"*Nor* such thoughts
Dim and unhallowed dost thou *not* reject."

"*Nor* dost *not* thou sometimes recal those hours."

To this enumeration of faults we may add, that there are some pieces in this collection which to us appear to be quite silly and vapid. The following "Verses," for instance, "to a Young Lady on her recovery from a Fever:"

"Why need I say, Louisa, dear!
How glad I am to see you here,
A lovely convalescent;
Risen from the bed of pain and fear,
And feverish heat incessant.

"The sunny Showers, the dappled Sky,
The little Birds that warble high
Their vernal loves commencing,
Will better welcome you than I,
With their sweet *influencing*.

"Believe me, while in bed you lay,
Your danger taught us all to pray:
You made us grow devouter!
Each eye looked up, and seemed to say,
How can we do without her?

"Besides, what vexed us worse, we knew
They have no need of such as you
In the place where you were going:
This World has angels all too few,
And Heaven is overflowing!"—p. 150.

We shall not, however, quote any thing more of this kind. From what we have said, the reader will perceive, that we entertain a very high idea of Mr Coleridge's poetical merits. He has intimated, however, in his preface, that he intends for the future to devote himself chiefly to studies of a different nature. We do not, it is true, give much credit to such a promise—because we have something of the same idea respecting the writing of poems, which Goldsmith had

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respecting slander, that it is like the propensity of a tyger which has once tasted of human blood,—not easily divested of the appetite it has indulged. Taking the promise of the poet, however, as seriously given, we should be disposed to say, that if he is conscious of no desire to produce poems more free from faults than most of those in the volume before us, we do not think that the reputation of the artist would be much injured by his relinquishing the study; because, what is now attributed to mere negligence and apathy, would soon come to be considered as an inherent defect in his genius. We cannot help adding, however, that if Mr Coleridge would give his mind more exclusively to what appears to us to be his true vocation, and would carefully avoid those extravagancies of sentiment and singularities of expression to which we have slightly alluded, we have no doubt that he might yet produce a work which would place him in the first rank of British poets,—which would entirely justify the high opinion very generally entertained of the capabilities of his genius,—and be fully adequate to all the compliments, whether sincere or adulatory, he has ever received.

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1. *Third Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Mad-Houses.* Ordered to be printed 15th June 1816.
2. *A Letter to Lord Binning, M. P. on the State of Lunatic Asylums, and on the Number and Condition of the Insane Poor in Scotland.* By A. Halliday, M. D. 8vo. London and Edinburgh, 1816.

We have selected these two from a variety of interesting, and many of them very important works, which have lately appeared on the subject of lunatics and lunatic asylums, because they refer particularly to Scotland, and afford us an opportunity of offering a few remarks, not only on the state of *insanity*, but also on the condition of the *insane* in general in this kingdom.

The first is the report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, of which the Right Honourable George Rose was chairman. It contains the answers of the Sheriffs of Edinburgh, Lanark, Renfrew, Aberdeen, and Forfar, to queries * which had been submitted to them by the Committee. This Committee, it is to be observed, had sat for nearly three sessions of Parliament examining witnesses as to the state of mad-houses in England and Wales, and had brought to light so many instances of cruelty, neglect, and misery, even in the largest, and what had always been considered the best regulated public establishments in England, that the great degree of interest which the subject has excited in every part of the empire is not to be wondered at. Lord Binning, a Scotsman, and one who seems endowed with the noblest feelings of his kind, was at an early period appointed a member of this Committee. He appears to have taken an active part in all their labours, and we believe it was at his suggestion that their inquiry was extended to Scotland, and this report laid before the House.

Although the Sheriffs do not bring forward any glaring instances of cruelty

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* *Heads of Queries addressed to Sheriffs in Scotland, by the Committee of the House of Commons relative to Mad-houses*, 1815.

1*st*, The number of institutions in each county. Private. Erected by act of Parliament, charter, or private subscription, noting those built expressly for the purpose they are now put to?

2*d*, If Sheriff had visited those institutions in terms of the act lately passed?

3*d*, As to their state, whether public or private, including management. Treatment, medical and moral. Situation and extent of buildings, and number of patients, keepers, and servants?

4*th*, As to the condition of pauper lunatics, and the provision made for their reception, maintenance, and treatment?

5*th*, As to what regulations the Sheriff may have made respecting lunatics, agreeably to the power granted him by Mr Colquhoun's act?

6*th*, As to the power of magistrates in confining lunatics, and inspecting mad-houses previous to the act?

7*th*, As to the power of the Court of Justiciary to commit criminal lunatics to existing asylums? And, *lastly*, the query was,

What suggestion have you to offer relative to the improvement of the different kinds of mad-houses in Scotland? And what alterations in, or additions to, existing enactments, appear to you to be necessary, or likely to be beneficial?

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or neglect toward the insane in this country, yet they all agree in the great want of accommodation for their proper confinement, and in the little attention which is paid to their medical or moral treatment; and they are unanimous in urging the necessity of public asylums being erected in different parts of the kingdom. In England, an act of Parliament has been in existence for some years, by which the counties are authorized to build asylums for the insane; and we know that many of the best establishments in that kingdom have been provided under that Act. But in Scotland there is no such measure, although the necessity of it is even more apparent than in England. In the south, the fault seems to have been more in the management of the insane, and in their treatment, than in the want of either public or private asylums. After completing their investigations, which, with a patience and perseverance that does the highest credit to their zeal and humanity, they had continued from year to year, the worthy chairman of the Committee proposed a bill to the House, which he intituled "An act to repeal an act made in the 14th year of his present Majesty, and another act made in the 55th year of his present Majesty, for regulating Madhouses; and for making other provisions and regulations in lieu thereof." This measure passed the House of Commons, not only with unanimity, but with the expressed approbation of almost every member present. It was carried to the Lords by the mover and some of his friends, read a first time, and no more heard of. Such were the proceedings of the legislature in the session 1815-16. In the course of the summer of 1816, Lord Binning, while resident at his father's house in East Lothian, addressed a letter to the conveners of the several counties in Scotland, in which, after calling their attention to the misery existing in public as well as private mad-houses, and which had been laid open by the evidence taken before the select committee, and the want of proper places for the confinement and care of the insane poor, particularly in Scotland,—he intimates his intention of bringing forward some measure at the next meeting of Parliament,—enters into a detail of his proposed measure, and requests that his letter may be laid before the county gentlemen at their first meeting, and that he may be favoured with their opinions and advice. It does not appear, however, that any notice was taken of this letter by the gentlemen of the counties, as we are not aware that any meeting was called for the purpose of taking it into consideration, or that it was at all brought forward at any of their ordinary county meetings. On the third day after the meeting of last session of Parliament, Mr Rose again asked for, and obtained leave to introduce a bill for regulating madhouses, the necessity for which some additional evidence before the committee had rendered still more apparent. We do not consider it necessary to remark farther on this general measure, than merely to state, that it again passed the House of Commons, was carried up to the Lords, read a first time, and then, after lying for nearly three months on their table, the further consideration of it, on a motion by the Marquis of Lansdown, was postponed for three months, that is, until a new bill should be again brought forward. However much we may regret the delays which have taken place in a measure of such vital importance to the interests of humanity, we are satisfied that the greater part of Mr Rose's bill will eventually pass into a law, and feel convinced, that, in the hands of the noble Marquis just mentioned, who, to our own knowledge, has paid great attention to the subject for at least twelve years past, the measure will become much more effectual than it otherwise would have been. Another year cannot pass without producing some change in the horrible system that has so long prevailed. Both Lords and Commons agree as to the expediency of the measure, and the only difference of opinion appears to be with regard to some of the minor enactments of Mr Rose's bill.

But to return to what more immediately concerns ourselves. Very early in the session, Lord Binning obtained leave to bring in a bill for the establishment of county or district asylums in Scotland. This bill, which appears to have been drawn up with great care and accuracy, was accordingly brought in, read a first time, and ordered to be printed. The second reading was postponed to a period suf-

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ficiently distant to admit of his Lordship's receiving the sentiments of the county meetings. The bill was, accordingly, transmitted to the several counties. Now it was that they saw the matter in a serious light. The alarm was first sounded, we believe, by the county of Ayr. It spread rapidly; and, at the general county meetings in April last, the proposed measure was taken into consideration—not, however, as was intended, that they might amend and correct it, so as to render it as perfect as possible, but with the avowed intention, as appears from the resolutions of a great majority, of rejecting it *in toto*. Nay, some of the counties even went so far as to declare the proposed act not only improper, but altogether *unnecessary*. The gentlemen of the county of Stirling resolved, "*4thly*, That the means of cure are much more likely to prove efficacious in the lunatic asylums already existing in several of the most considerable towns in Scotland, especially in Edinburgh and Glasgow, where the ablest medical assistance is to be had, than they could be in the proposed district asylums, some of which must necessarily be placed in the smaller towns, where the medical attendants cannot be supposed equally eminent in their profession." All this may be very true; but are the lunatic asylums already existing capable of receiving the number of patients that require treatment? From a document in the appendix to Dr Halliday's letter, we observe that there are only *four* public asylums at present existing in Scotland, viz. those of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Montrose, and Aberdeen; and that these, when perfectly full, can only contain 235 patients, while, at the most, only 100 of these can be of the poorer classes, or what may be considered parish paupers. At Dundee an asylum has been built by subscription, which, when completed, will accommodate 40 more. The Dumfries Infirmary has accommodation for 12, and the Inverness County Hospital cells for 4, so that, in all the public establishments in the kingdom, there is only accommodation for 311. At Edinburgh, where the accommodation at present is only for 20, no patient can be received for a less board than one guinea *per* week,—a sum which we conceive few parishes would agree to pay for their poor. At Glasgow, where they have accommodation for 120, the governors expressly state that the plan of their institution proceeds upon the principle that *the income is to equal the expenditure;* and unless, therefore, a very great majority of the patients are of the higher classes of society, the benefit which it can afford to paupers must be very trifling. Of these facts we conceive the gentlemen of Stirling must have been ignorant when they formed such a resolution as that quoted.

We shall not refer here to the resolutions of the same county with regard to idiots, or, as they are called in the law language of Scotland, *fatuous persons*. It is sufficient for our purpose to observe, that, from the summary printed by order of the House of Commons, it appears that there are not less than 622 furious lunatics in 740 parishes in Scotland. How then, we would ask, are they to be treated in asylums that can only accommodate 311, even supposing the parishes were willing to pay for their board?—But enough of this. The ferment continued great and general, and, as *de magnis majora loquuntur*, it was considered nothing short of imposing a poor's rate upon the country; and the representatives of almost every county in Scotland were instructed to oppose the bill in every stage of its progress through the House. Amidst all this opposition, it is pleasing to reflect, that the enlightened county of Edinburgh held a very different conduct. The gentlemen of this county met indeed, but not to throw obstacles in the way of such an important and necessary measure. We know that they canvassed the printed act paragraph by paragraph, suggesting such alterations and improvements as they thought it required; and, instead of publishing their resolutions in the newspapers, they sent their detailed statement and remarks to the benevolent mover of the bill. Such conduct merits the highest praise. After the second reading, the bill was withdrawn altogether, and towards the end of the session an amended bill was introduced by the same indefatigable philanthropist. It was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and is now in the hands of the county gentlemen for their consideration. What may be its fate we know not; but to us it appears to be free from all those enact-

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ments which seemed to give so much offence in the first act; and we would fain hope that it will meet with the decided approbation of at least a great majority of the nation, as we are satisfied it will meet with no opposition in either House of Parliament. During the last session, a Committee was appointed on a motion of the Right Honourable Robert Peel, to inquire into the state of lunatic asylums in Ireland; and, from the report of that Committee, a bill was brought in by the same gentleman, (which has passed into a law,) * authorizing the Lord-Lieutenant and Privy Council to establish district asylums in that kingdom; so that Scotland is now the only portion of the British empire where no legal establishments exist for the custody and cure of the most helpless of our afflicted fellow-creatures. Are we poorer than our neighbours? or have we less humanity? We are certain that neither the one nor the other can be fairly alleged. We would rather impute the opposition which the measure has met with to ignorance, and to the distressed state of the country at the time; and we flatter ourselves, that the detail which we have now given will clear up many doubts, and tend not a little to enlighten some, while the distress which prevailed so universally shall have passed away. We have read over the proposed act with some attention, and the whole, except perhaps *one clause*, has our fullest approbation. The clause to which we allude, is that by which it is enacted that parishes are to bear the expence of their insane poor in the district asylums. Now, though we are aware that this is merely a repetition of the existing law of the land, yet we think that many evils would be obviated by making it a county measure; and we are sure that it would be more palatable to our countrymen, who have a just abhorrence of every thing like parish rates. Under Mr Wynne's act for the establishment of lunatic asylums in England, *vagrant lunatics* are supported by the county at large; and it is the opinion of the best informed in that part of the kingdom, that the insane poor of every description ought to be supported in the same manner.

We would earnestly recommend Dr Halliday's letter to the perusal of such of our readers as may wish for further information. It contains the sentiments of one who has attended a good deal to the subject, and will, we trust, convince them, as it has done us, not only of the importance, but of the absolute necessity of public asylums in Scotland, where the insane poor may be received and properly treated. We regret that we have not room for the remarks which we intended to have offered on the improvements which have taken place in the treatment of insanity. But on this subject our readers will find much valuable information in the minutes of evidence taken before the Select Committee, as well as in the reports of the principal asylums in this kingdom, which are submitted annually to the public. It is now no longer to be considered an incurable disease; and we do not hesitate to affirm that, under proper management, ninety-nine out of a hundred of the cases which have been allowed to degenerate into hopeless idiotism, might have been cured, and the individuals, who are now for ever lost, restored to reason and to society. Some strong remarks, in the concluding page of Dr Halliday's letter, led us to pay a visit to the Bedlam of this city a few days ago, and we were both delighted and highly gratified to witness the improvements which have taken place in that abode of wretchedness within the last twelvemonth. We cannot call it an asylum for the *cure* of lunatics, as we could not find that any attention had been paid by the medical attendant to the disease for which the patients had been sent there; but, as a place of confinement, we will venture to pronounce it as comfortable and well regulated as any in the world; and every attention which humanity can suggest, seems to be paid to the unhappy inmates; yet, as we trust the time has passed when confinement was considered all that was necessary in the case of a madman, we would recommend to the governors of the charity work-house to inculcate upon their medical attendant the necessity of applying himself to the cure of the primary complaint,—a duty for which he is so eminently qualified by his extensive practice in one of the best regulated private establishments in Eu-

* 57th Geo. III. cap. 106.

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rope, which is under his own immediate management; and where, if we are rightly informed, more cures are accomplished than in any other establishment in the kingdom. The old part of the building upon the city wall, which is no longer inhabited, ought, in our opinion, to be removed altogether. It would make a considerable addition to the men's court, or airing-ground. In its present state, it can only be considered as a receptacle for vermin; and, from the number of neat comfortable apartments which have been lately fitted up, we are convinced that the cells in the old building will never again be required.

We intended to have concluded our remarks here, when a resolution passed by the freeholders, &c. of the county of Perth, at their Michaelmas meeting, caught our attention. It appears that the gentlemen of that wide and important county (we mean the *freeholders*) are still determined to oppose Lord Binning's bill, even though they grant that it is purged of all the iniquities of his first measure. We confess that we feel utterly at a loss to account for this opposition, more particularly in a county, where, from an accidental circumstance, the sum necessary to be raised by assessment for building an asylum would be very small indeed. A poor family in the town of Perth came into the possession of a very large property by the sudden death of a gentleman who was on his way home from India. One of the sons of this family, who earned a subsistence as a common weaver, shortly after he came into possession of his wealth, burst a blood-vessel. He lingered for about twelve months in very bad health, when he died, leaving a sum of money for the purpose of building a lunatic asylum in his native town. This sum, as directed by his will, was to accumulate for eight years, when, from some other additions which it was to receive, it would amount to about L.20,000. A few years have still to run of this prescribed period. But with such a sum, left expressly for a lunatic asylum, we conceive that the county of Perth would have to contribute a very trifle. Yet we repeat, the *freeholders* of that county have resolved to oppose the measure! Is it possible that party politics could thus blunt those fine feelings, which we trust will ever reign paramount in the nature of man?

We have made a very extensive, and, we will venture to add, a very accurate calculation of the probable expence of the district asylums, (it is not intended to propose more than *five*, some say *three*,) and we find that the sum which the largest landed proprietor in Scotland would have to contribute will not exceed *twenty pounds!!!* It therefore cannot be the dread of the expence which has excited such an alarm.

Poems. By John Keats. London, 12mo. pp. 121. Ollier, 1817.

Of the author of this small volume we know nothing more than that he is said to be a very young man, and a particular friend of the Messrs Hunt, the editors of the Examiner, and of Mr Hazlitt. His youth accounts well enough for some injudicious luxuriancies and other faults in his poems; and his intimacy with two of the wittiest writers of their day, sufficiently vouches both for his intellect and his taste. Going altogether out of the road of high raised passion and romantic enterprise, into which many ordinary versifiers have been drawn after the example of the famous poets of our time, he has attached himself to a model more pure than some of these, we imagine; and, at the same time, as poetical as the best of them. "Sage, serious" *Spencer*, the most melodious and mildly fanciful of our old English poets, is Mr Keats's favourite. He takes his motto from him,—puts his head on his title-page,—and writes one of his most luxurious descriptions of nature in his measure. We find, indeed, *Spencerianisms* scattered through all his other verses, of whatsoever measure or character. But, though these things sufficiently point out where Mr K. has caught his inspiration, they by no means determine the general character of his manner, which partakes a great deal of that *picturesqueness* of fancy and licentious brilliancy of epithet which distinguish the early Italian novelists and amorous poets. For instance, those who know the careless, sketchy, capricious, and yet archly-thoughtful manner of *Pulci* and *Ariosto*, will understand what we mean from the following specimens, better than from any laboured or specific assertion of ours.

"Linger awhile upon some bending planks
That lean against a streamlet's rushy banks,

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And watch intently nature's gentle doings:
They will be found softer than ring-doves coings.
How silent comes the water round that bend;
Not the minutest whisper does it send
To the o'erhanging sallows; blades of grass
Slowly across the chequered shadows pass," &c.

"Sometimes goldfinches one by one will drop
From low hung branches; little space they stop;
But sip, and twitter, and their feathers sleek;
Then off at once, as in a wanton freak;
Or, perhaps, to shew their black and golden wings,
Pausing upon their yellow flutterings.
Were I in such a place, I sure should pray
That nought less sweet might call my thoughts away,
Than the soft rustle of a maiden's gown
Fanning away the dandelions down;
Than the light music of her nimble toes
Patting against the sorrel as she goes.
How she would start and blush thus to be caught
Playing in all her innocence of thought.
O let me lead her gently o'er the brook,
Watch her half smiling lips and downward look;
O let me for one moment touch her wrist;
Let me one moment to her breathing list;
And as she leaves me, may she often turn
Her fair eyes looking through her locks auburne."

"Could I at once my mad ambition smother
For lasting joys like these, sure I should be
Happier and dearer to society.
At times, 'tis true, I've felt relief from pain,
When some bright thought has darted through my brain:
Through all that day I've felt a greater pleasure
Than if I'd brought to light a hidden treasure.
As to my sonnets, though none else should heed them,
I feel delighted still that you should read them.
Of late too, I have had much calm enjoyment,
Stretched on the grass at my best lov'd employment
Of scribbling lines for you. These things I thought,
While, in my face, the freshest breeze I caught.
E'en now I'm pillowed on a bed of flowers
That crowns a lofty clift, which proudly towers
Above the ocean waves. The stalks and blades
Chequer my tablet with their quivering shades.
On one side is a field of drooping oats,
Through which the poppies shew their scarlet coats;
So pert and useless that they bring to mind
The scarlet coats that pester human kind.
And, on the other side, outspread is seen
Ocean's blue mantle streaked with purple and green.
Now 'tis I see a canvass'd ship, and now
Mark the bright silver curling round her prow;
I see the lark down-dropping to his nest,
And the broad wing'd sea-gull never at rest;
For when no more he spreads his feathers free,
His breast is dancing on the restless sea.
Now I direct my eyes into the west,
Which at this moment is in sun-beams drest;
Why westward turn? 'Twas but to say adieu!
'Twas but to kiss my hand, dear George, to you."

This is so easy, and so like the ardent fancies of an aspiring and poetical spirit, that we have a real pleasure in quoting, for the benefit of our readers, another fragment of one of Mr Keats's *epistles:*

"Oft have you seen a swan superbly frowning,
And with proud breast his own white shadow crowning,
He slants his neck beneath the waters bright,
So silently it seems a beam of light
Come from the galaxy: anon he sports,—
With outspread wings the Naiad Zephyr courts,
Or ruffles all the surface of the lake,
In striving from its crystal face to take
Some diamond water drops, and them to treasure
In milky nest, and sip them off at leisure.
But not a moment can he there insure them,
Nor, to such downy rest can he allure them;
For down they rush as though they would be free,
And drop like hours into eternity."

All this is just, and brilliant too,—though rather ambitious to be kept up for any length of time in a proper and fitting strain. What follows appears to us the very pink of the smart and flowing conversational style. It is truly such elegant *badinage* as should pass between scholars and gentlemen who can feel as well as judge.

"But many days have past since last my heart
Was warmed luxuriantly by divine Mozart;

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By Arne delighted, or by Handel maddened;
Or by the song of Erin pierc'd and saddened:
What time you were before the music sitting,
And the rich notes to each sensation fitting.
Since I have walk'd with you through shady lanes
That freshly terminate in open plains,
And revell'd in a chat that ceased not,
When at nightfall among your books we got:
No, nor when supper came, nor after that,
Nor when reluctantly I took my hat;
No, nor till cordially you shook my hand
Mid-way between our homes: Your accents bland
Still sounded in my ears, when I no more
Could hear your footsteps touch the grav'ly floor.
Sometimes I lost them and then found again;
You changed the footpath for the grassy plain.
In those still moments I have wished you joys
That well you know to honour: "Life's very toys
With him," said I, "will take a pleasant charm;
It cannot be that aught will work him harm.
These thoughts now come o'er me with all their might:—
Again I shake your hand,—friend Charles, good night."

These specimens will be enough to shew that Mr K. has ventured on ground very dangerous for a young poet;—calculated, we think, to fatigue his ingenuity, and try his resources of fancy, without producing any permanent effect adequate to the expenditure of either. He seems to have formed his poetical predilections in exactly the same direction as Mr Hunt; and to write, from personal choice, as well as emulation, at all times, in that strain which can be most recommended to the favour of the general readers of poetry, only by the critical ingenuity and peculiar refinements of Mr Hazlitt. That style is vivacious, smart, witty, changeful, sparkling, and learned—full of bright points and flashy expressions that strike and even seem to please by a sudden boldness of novelty,—rather abounding in familiarities of conception and oddnesses of manner which shew ingenuity, even though they be perverse, or common, or contemptuous. The writers themselves seem to be persons of considerable taste, and of comfortable pretensions, who really appear as much alive to the socialities and sensual enjoyments of life, as to the contemplative beauties of nature. In addition to their familiarity, though,—they appear to be too full of conceits and sparkling points, ever to excite any thing more than a cold approbation at the long-run—and too fond, even in their favourite descriptions of nature, of a reference to the factitious resemblances of society, ever to touch the heart. Their verse is straggling and uneven, without the lengthened flow of blank verse, or the pointed connection of couplets. They aim laudably enough at force and freshness, but are not so careful of the inlets of vulgarity, nor so self-denying to the temptations of indolence, as to make their force a merit. In their admiration of some of our elder writers, they have forgot the fate of Withers and Ben Jonson, and May: And, without forgetting that Petrarch and Cowley are hardly read, though it be decent to profess admiration of them,—they seem not to bear in mind the appalling doom which awaits the faults of mannerism or the ambition of a sickly refinement. To justify the conclusions of their poetical philosophy, they are brave enough to sacrifice the sympathetic enthusiasm of their art, and that common fame which recurs to the mind with the ready freshness of remembered verse,—to a system of which the fruits come, at last, to make us exclaim with Lycidas,

"*Numeros* memini, si verba tenerem."

If Mr Keats does not forthwith cast off the uncleannesses of this school, he will never make his way to the truest strain of poetry in which, taking him by himself, it appears he might succeed. We are not afraid to say before the good among our readers, that we think this true strain dwells on features of manly singleness of heart, or feminine simplicity and constancy of affection,—mixed up with feelings of rational devotion, and impressions of independence spread over pictures of domestic happiness and social kindness,—more than on the fiery and resolute, the proud and repulsive aspects of misnamed humanity. It is something which bears, in fact, the direct impress of natural passion,—which depends for its effect on the shadowings of unsophisticated

emotion, and takes no merit from the refinements of a metaphysical wit, or the giddy wanderings of an untamed imagination,—but is content with the glory of stimulating, rather than of oppressing, the sluggishness of ordinary conceptions.

It would be cold and contemptible not to hope well of one who has expressed his love of nature so touchingingly as Mr K. has done in the following sonnets:

"O solitude! if I must with thee dwell,
Let it not be among the jumbled heap
Of murky buildings; climb with me the steep,—
Nature's observatory,—whence the dell
Its flow'ry slopes, its rivers crystal swell,
May seem a span; let me thy vigils keep
'Mongst boughs pavillion'd, where the deer's swift leap
Startles the wild bee from the foxglove bell.
But though I'll gladly trace these scenes with thee,
Yet the sweet converse of an innocent mind,
Whose words are images of thoughts refin'd,
Is my soul's pleasure; and it sure must be
Almost the highest bliss of human kind,
When to thy haunts two kindred spirits flee."

"To one who has been long in city pent,
'Tis very sweet to look into the fair
And open face of heav'n,—to breathe a prayer
Full in the smile of the blue firmament.
Who is more happy, when, with heart's content,
Fatigued he sinks into some pleasant lair
Of wavy grass, and reads a debonair
And gentle tale of love and languishment?
Returning home at evening, with an ear
Catching the notes of Philomel,—an eye
Watching the sailing cloudlets bright career,
He mourns that day so soon has glided by;
E'en like the passage of an angel's tear
That falls through the clear ether silently."

Another sonnet, addressed to Mr Haydon the painter, appears to us very felicitous. *The thought*, indeed, of the first eight lines is altogether admirable; and the whole has a veritable air of Milton about it which has not been given, in the same extent, to any other poet except Wordsworth.

"High-mindedness, a jealousy for good,
A loving-kindness for the great man's fame,
Dwells here and there with people of no name,
In noisome alley, and in pathless wood:
And where we think the truth least understood,
Oft may be found a 'singleness of aim,'
That ought to frighten into hooded shame
A money-mong'ring pitiable brood.
How glorious this affection for the cause
Of stedfast genius toiling gallantly!
What when a stout unbending champion awes
Envy and malice to their native sty?
Unnumber'd souls breathe out a still applause
Proud to behold him in his country's eye!"

We are sorry that we can quote no more of these sweet verses which have in them so deep a tone of moral energy, and such a zest of the pathos of genius. We are loth to part with this poet of promise, and are vexed that critical justice requires us to mention some passages of considerable affectation, and marks of offensive haste, which he has permitted to go forth into his volume. "Leafy luxury," "jaunty streams," "lawny slope," "the moonbeamy air," "a sun-beamy tale;" these, if not namby-pamby, are, at least, the "holiday and lady terms" of those poor affected creatures who write verses "in spite of nature and their stars."—

"*A little noiseless noise among the leaves,*
Born of the very sigh that silence heaves."

This is worthy only of the Rosa Matildas whom the strong-handed Gifford put down.

"To possess but a span of the hour of leisure."

"No sooner had I stepped into these pleasures."

These are two of the most unpoetical of Mr K.'s lines,—but they are not single. We cannot part, however, on bad terms with the author of such a glorious and Virgilian conception as this:

"The moon lifting her silver rim
Above a cloud, and with a gradual swim
Coming into the blue with all her light."

A striking natural vicissitude has hardly been expressed better by Virgil himself,—though the severe simpleness of his age, and the compact structure of its language, do so much for him in every instance:

"*Ipse Pater*, mediâ nimborum in nocte, *coruscâ*
Fulmina molitur dextra."

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Six Mois à Londres en 1816. *Par l'auteur de Quinze Jours à London.* Paris, 8vo.

An irrevocable fate seems to ordain that there shall never be cordial or perfect peace between the two nations who dwell on the opposite sides of the British Channel. The closing of the great contest, and the cessation of the din of arms, has been only the signal for the commencement of a *petite guerre*, carried on with the pen, indeed, instead of the sword, but not with the less determination and animosity. General Pillet opened the campaign, but began by taking too advanced a position, in which even his most zealous countrymen were unable to support him. His work, in fact, is a gross and monstrous libel, in which a very small portion of truth is combined with a series of the most bare-faced calumnies. It is reported to have been suppressed by authority; but a French gentleman assured us that it never had; but that the French people, after the first edition, unanimously refused to purchase it. However, M. Pillet did not long pass without the retort *uncourteous*. Mr Scott's Visit to Paris is considered, by all true Frenchmen, as a libel scarcely second to that of M. Pillet; and the wide circulation which it obtained in England, made that which at first was only an individual offence, become a national one. However, reprisals were not long wanting. The present writer entered the field, and, having first thrown forward a light division under the title of *Quinze Jours à Londres*, soon after brought up his main body, under the more imposing title of *Six Mois à Londres*. He attacks, in an equally decided, but much more prudent and cautious, manner. This, on the whole, is the work of a man of some tolerable share of wit and observation, who writes in a light and gay style, and without ever quitting the bias in favour of his own country, cannot be charged with any very direct or palpable misrepresentation of what he sees in ours. We regret that our limits allow us to follow him only in a very few of the most prominent particulars to which he alludes.

One of the main objects of ridicule is found in the large dinners and crowded routes of the English;—entertainments, in which the sole distinction consists in the number of persons collected together into one place. This is a never-failing ground of sarcasm to our neighbours, and one on which it does not seem very possible to say any thing in our own defence. It seems very singular, considering the relative character of the French and English nations, that this should be a point in which the former should triumph. The English are surely the more quiet, orderly, and domestic, of the two; why then, in their amusements, do they seek nothing but crowd, bustle, and confusion? The cause we apprehend to lie in this very feature of their character, which ought at first sight to exclude it. The Englishman seeks his enjoyment at home, in domestic society, business, and reflection. When he gives a dinner or a route, he has in view neither his own amusement, nor that of the company whom he invites. The sole object is to display his wealth, and maintain his place in society; both these purposes are best served by making the assemblage as large as possible; and if pleasure is not found, it is because it was never sought. While, however, we trace the custom to this respectable cause, we are by no means inclined to deny its intrinsic barbarism; nor do we doubt, that a French coterie, or *petit souper*, must be infinitely more agreeable; or that the latter nation are more deeply initiated in all the mysteries of the *savoir vivre*. We do not so entirely agree as to the condition of the fair sex in this our island, which the anonymous author deeply deplores. The following is his view of the life which they lead:

"The time which passes between her entrance into the world and her marriage is the happiest interval in the life of an Englishwoman. She is then the object of some attentions; she enjoys a certain liberty, and on her devolves the important office of preparing tea. Is she married? adieu to all compliment and attention. She passes the morning in solitude; her thoughtful husband has his head full of too many ideas to allow that of his fair companion to present itself. Is she of high rank? The sitting of Parliament occupies him when in London, and the pleasures of hunting at his country seat. Is he in the middle rank? The case is still worse. Speculations, affairs of trade, absorb him wholly, and do not leave him time even to recollect that he is married.

"But at last the hour of dinner calls him

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home; he has invited a few friends; his wife, enjoying the prerogatives of mistress of the house, does the honours of the table. Her presence doubtless will bring joy and gaiety. Not at all; an English repast is a piece in two acts, of which the first is serious, and the second often vulgar. Dinner being announced, in many houses the gentlemen do not even offer the ladies their hand; this is said to be in order to prevent little jealousies. However, the company are at table, and at this moment of forgotten affairs, of happy ease, they are about to occupy themselves with the ladies, and to lavish on them those amiable attentions, that flattering address, which, in France, appear to be the first pleasure of a feast. No. They think first, and very seriously, of the principal object which brought them together. Then a young man will talk of his horses, another of his dogs; a gentleman counts the foxes which he has killed in the course of the year; a merchant tells you the price of cotton in the Levant; then come political speculations, all subjects very interesting to the ladies.

"But the cloth is removed; the dessert is set upon the table; the ladies drink a glass or two, and then go off. They must retire solitary into the drawing-room, while the men, with their elbows resting on the table, are employed for one, two, or more hours, in making copious libations to Bacchus.

"At last the two companies unite; the men are come to take tea and coffee. What a charming company! Some, overpowered by the fumes of wine, withdraw to the corner of a sopha, and sink into a deep slumber. Others, on whom the same cause has produced a contrary effect, talk on in the most insupportable and insignificant manner.

"At least it may be supposed that, in the mercantile class, so numerous in London, women will find business a sure resource against ennui. It is a mistake. They have no concern with business. They remain in the interior of the house, while the men take charge almost exclusively of the warehouse and shop. The merchant who puts up to shew the most precious commodities, *does not reckon upon the charms of his wife, to induce the passenger to enter.* Only the shops of the haberdasher and confectioner are served by women."

We admit that there is some truth in this picture, particularly so far as relates to the history of an English dinner. We must however say, that several passages, particularly the one marked in italics, indicate a state of moral feeling with regard to the sex, in which an Englishman would find some difficulty in participating. In general, there is this clear distinction between the two nations, that the species of gallantry, which we commonly call admiration, is exclusively directed in England to unmarried ladies, in France to married. We do not mean to make any of those inferences which Englishmen in France are perhaps apt to make too readily; we will suppose that nothing passes except the *egards aimables—attentions delicates—propos flatteurs*, mentioned by our author. But we confess that we decidedly adhere to the British law of decorum, which ordains, that a married woman shall look for every sentiment connected with love to her husband only, and that all other men shall be viewed by her only as common friends or as acquaintance. It appears to us even more natural, and also more amusing, to address the *attentions aimables*, and the *propos flatteurs*, to a fine young girl of twenty or twenty-five, than to a venerable matron bordering perhaps on her grand climacteric. A married lady at all advanced in life may really, we think, find sufficient enjoyment in rational conversation and the care of her family, without the necessity of being always on the watch for admiration; and, if the shopkeeper's wife performs faithfully all her other duties, he may fairly dispense with that of attracting customers by a display of her charms.

The author, to shew his impartiality, devotes a chapter to English beneficence, of which he recounts many splendid examples. At the close, however, he withdraws nearly the whole merit, by hinting, that it proceeds almost solely from ostentation. This, we think, is dealing rather unfairly with us. Doubtless there is a mixture of ostentation here as in every thing good that is done by the mass of mankind. But it is the prevailing sentiment of beneficence which turns in this direction the efforts of the vain to acquire distinction, so that even where it is not an individual, it is still a national, virtue.

The author has sundry remarks on the arts, the theatres, tea-drinking, &c.; but the necessity of leaving their due proportion to the other departments of our Miscellany, induces us here to pause. Although this work is not without merit, there seems still wanting to both nations a writer who shall give to each of them a faithful and impartial description of the other.

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ANALYTICAL NOTICES.

FOREIGN JOURNALS.

On the Indian Work called the Tables of Bedpai. By M. SILVESTRE DE SACY. (*Journal de Savans.*)

THIS work, called in the original Calila and Dimna, is now published by M. de Sacy, in the Arabic version, which, however, is itself only a translation. The same learned writer has prefixed some introductory observations on the origin of this celebrated collection of Apologues. In this introduction M. de Sacy refutes the opinion of those who believe the Arabic to be the original. On the contrary, he conceives it clearly proved, that they were translated, in the reign of Chosroes the Great, into the *Pehlvi*, or ancient Persian language, by a Persian physician named Barzouyeh, and that they were thence only *translated* into Arabic by Abdallah-ben Almokaffa. At the conquest of Persia by the Arabs, all the literary monuments of the ancient *Pehlvi* language were destroyed, and the learned men who afterwards arose in a more enlightened period contented themselves with translations of those which were most remarkable. This opinion is strengthened by the conformity which exists between the Calila and Dimna and the *Hipotadesa*, printed in India some years ago, and of which there are two English translations, one by Mr Wilkins, and the other by Sir William Jones. The resemblance is not such as to indicate that the one was a translation of the other, but rather that both were drawn from some common source. The same may probably be said of the *Pantchatantra*, the *Anvari Sohaili*, the *Homayounnameh*, &c. The original stock from which these various branches have been derived, is probably the most ancient of books, except the Bible, and the one which has been translated into the greatest number of languages.

On Sir Humphrey Davy's Safety Lamp. By M. BIOT. (*Ibid.*)

M. BIOT in the present article gives a succinct account of this admirable invention, now well known in this country, and accompanies it with the following observations:—

"As long as the human mind remained a stranger to the benefits of experimental philosophy, that is to say, from the remotest times down to the age of Galileo, it was naturally believed that chance alone could make useful discoveries; and, by a necessary consequence, the observation of natural phenomena was regarded as a purely speculative branch of inquiry; but, since theoretical considerations have given place to the careful and exact study of the properties of matter,—since the art was known of creating new phenomena, with the view of investigating the concealed qualities which we wish to know, an art of which Galileo and Newton first gave such memorable examples,—the sciences have acquired genuine wealth. Science, ably interrogated, has answered with precision; her answers have been benefits; even the vulgar have comprehended her power; they have learned to esteem those great men whose speculations had secretly prepared so many useful consequences.

The processes by which Sir H. Davy has found the means of protecting the life of miners against the attacks of their most terrible enemy, present a new and memorable example of the advantages of that plan by which, from the most abstract principles of science, practical applications are drawn of the highest importance, but which, from the complicated nature of the elements on which they depend, chance could never have discovered.

The lamp of Sir H. Davy, for the lighting of mines, is more wonderful than the enchanted lamp of Aladdin. Here the gas itself is made to give warning of the danger which it threatens. This formidable enemy is not only conquered by science,—it is forced to serve; it becomes a sure guide, a submissive slave. Already in England, this lamp has preserved the lives of a great number of miners. So useful an invention we hope will soon be adopted in France, in the numerous coal-mines which are worked in that country.

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On the Charitable Establishments of Paris. By M. RAYNOUARD. (*Ibid.*)

PARIS contains ten hospitals for the sick, (*hopitaux,*) nine charitable houses, (*hospices,*) and twenty-two houses destined for beneficent purposes, (*bureaux de bienfaisance.*)

The Hotel Dieu, the most ancient hospital in Paris, and perhaps in Europe, has existed since the seventh century. It was long the only hospital which received the sick of both sexes, and every age,—foundlings, pregnant women, and even maniacs. Till very lately, these were crowded together in ill arranged halls, two, four, and even six in the same bed. Since the commencement of the present century, these inconveniences have been remedied; new halls have been constructed, better divided, and better aired; and the consequence has been a considerable diminution of the mortality. Generally speaking, there die in the hospitals 1 in 7½, and in the *hospices* 1 in 6½. The patients remain, on an average, a month and ten days in the hospital.

The Lying-in Hospital received in 1814, women to the number of 2700, of whom 2400 acknowledged themselves not to be married.

The Foundling Hospital, from 1804 to 1814, received 23,458 boys, and 22,463 girls; in all, 45,921; of this number 4130 were supposed to be legitimate.

The average annual expence of the hospitals is about 2,300,000 francs, (L. 110,000.) The number of patients received is about 35,500. The Hospices receive only about 5900, but they receive them to remain for life.

In regard to aids given at home, the number of poor persons thus relieved amounted, in 1804, to nearly 87,000; in 1813, to 103,000; and this last may be considered as nearly the medium term of the ten years.

On Mr Jameson's System of Mineralogy, (Bibliotheque Britannique.)

MR PICTET, editor of the Bibliotheque Britannique, after continuing through three parts his analysis of the second edition of Mr Jameson's work, finally observes: "Mr Jameson has neglected nothing which could render his work interesting, instructive, and useful to the student of minerals. It is, beyond all doubt, the most complete repertory which we yet possess of all the facts which constitute the science of oryctology."

Political Cards.

M. C. F. OSIANDER at Tubingen has published a "Card-Almanack," or plan for a pack of cards, in which the principal events and characters of the time were represented. The design of the "faced cards" will give a general idea of this *jeu d'esprit.*

Spades.

King—Wellington.
Queen—England looking proudly over the waves, like the God of the Sea.
Knave—A Scotch Highlander armed.

Clubs.

King—Kutusow.
Queen—Russia, placing her crown on fire upon the altar of her country.
Knave—An armed Cossack.

Diamonds.

King—Schwartzenberg.
Queen—Austria girding her head with the iron crown.
Knave—An armed Tyrolese.

Hearts.

King—Blucher.
Queen—Prussia, fastening the iron cross on her helm.
Knave—A Lusatian volunteer.

The common cards have also each their design, representing national manners, or scenes from popular plays. The most frequent characters are, Faustus and Mephistophiles, who are repeatedly introduced; Falstaff, who figures on several of the cards; Don Carlos, the Wife of Weinsberg, &c.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

GLEN-HYVOCH.—A SCOTTISH LEGEND.

"WHY, shepherd, from the vale below,
Where Spring's unbounded beauties glow,
Withdraw your flocks at even?
See, for their thirst a streamlet flow,
Serene as air, and cool as snow,
And couches 'neath the blossom'd sloe,
Secure from all the blasts that blow
From every point of heaven:
And say—for I have smiled to see
The milk-maid, tripping merrily
Home with her brimming pail,
Suppress her rural roundelay,
And urge with hastened step her way,
Till safely through that vale;
Then lilting as before, proceed
With lightened heart across the mead:
And oft, as in a musing mood,
By yon low grassy mound I stood,
Whose smiling to the starry skies
Within his mossy cradle lies
The infant spring, if chance conveyed
Some lated rustic down the glade,
Soon as I met his startled eye,
He turned and fled, I knew not why—
—Then say, good shepherd, why you shun
The loveliest vale beneath the sun?"

His hand upon his brow he laid,
Then twitched his plaid, and thus he said—
"Not many years are flown
Since Helen was the fairest maid
The sun from east to west surveyed,
And gentlest too that ever made
A lover's heart her own:
'Twas said of gentle blood she came—
She bore her foster father's name,
No other sire she knew;
And when old Owen's neck around
Her filial arms his darling wound,
She wept for gladness when she found
How near his heart she grew.

"He, too, a stranger 'mong us dwelt,
As one who had the rudeness felt
Of this distempered scene;
Retiring to our lonely glen,
Far from the rage of ruthless men,
'Mong whom his lot had been.
At first we deemed him stern and rude,
A hater of his kind,
Who in congenial solitude
Concealed a gloomy mind:
But he, perchance, had wounds of heart,
For which no balsam grows,
And bitter tears to shed apart
O'er consecrated woes:
For griefs there are which can to heaven
Alone in confidence be given,
And woes which must not be expressed,
Nor by a stranger's hand redressed.

"And yonder, where the murmuring brook,
Receding, leaves a sheltered nook,
An humble cot he reared,
And drew a slender fence around,
To shield some roods of garden ground,
Where flowers, and plants, and herbs, abound,
And trees, the choicest to be found,
In skilful ranks appeared.
This garden seemed his only care;
Till Helen rose, his heart to share;
And, smiling in his sight,
Still as that blossom spread and bloomed,
His mind a milder mood assumed,
Like some dark mountain when illumed
By Cynthia's silver light.
No more upon the midnight hill
He wander'd sad, and lone;
Or mused beside the moonlight rill,
Like figure changed to stone;
Nor on the village evening walk
Disdained to join the rural talk,
All sterner thoughts resigned:
The storms that racked his bosom cease;
She was the olive branch of peace
Between him and mankind.

"And who, when smiling years had shed
Matured enchantment on her head,
That maiden looked upon,
Could fail to bliss the very earth
That to such loveliness gave birth,
Had borne a heart of stone.
Her marble neck, and bosom fair,
Embraced by clouds of sunny hair,
Her shining brow, and graceful air,
Might be an angel's guise;
Meek and affectionate, her mind,
Of sweetest elements combined,
With all the love of womankind,
Illumed her melting eyes.
As clasp the woodbine's tendrils small
Some ancient temple's columned wall,
Till even the ruin smile;
So clung she to the reverend sire,
And kept his life's decaying fire
Alive a little while.
And many an ardent lover sighed
In vain, to win her from his side;
Averse, she every suit denied;
Though Owen oft would say—
And kissed his daughter's forehead mild—
'O ere I leave my orphan child,
Through this dull world so dark and wild
Choose one to guide thy way.'
Then, blushing thro' her tears, she'd throw
Around his neck her arms of snow—
'Where thy love planted me I'll grow,
Nor ever from this breast
Shall mortal hand thine orphan tear!
The stroke of death shall reach me there,
And lay us both to rest.'

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"One autumn eve, while yet each height
Swam in a sea of purple light;
And not a breath the aspen shook,
Nor sound, save of the rushing brook,
Or blackbird's solitary song,
Was heard, the woods or hills among,—
As wont, before his cottage gate
The hospitable father sate,
And round his rustic chair
The patriarchs of the village met,
And on the grass in order set,
Partook his kindly fare:
When sudden by their side they spied
A weary horseman with his guide.

"The stranger had a haughty mien
And swarthy brow, as he had been
Beneath a burning sky:
Of bearing stately, cold, and stern,
He looked around, as if in scorn
Of all that met his eye.
Old Owen, starting from his seat,
Went forth to give him welcome meet,
And beg him to alight—
But gazed a space,—then backward sprung
As if his foot an adder stung,
Or demon crossed his sight.
'Abhorred destroyer art thou there!
Avaunt, these aged eyeballs spare!'
No word the stranger spoke,
But from his eye a spark of ire,
That seemed his murky brow to fire,
In sullen silence broke!
He turned his steed, and from our sight
Vanished amid the shades of night.

"At midnight gusts of wind and rain
Ravaged the woods, and drenched the plain,
And through the echoing heavens amain
The rapid thunder rode:
'Twas said that doleful shrieks were heard,
And in that glen dark forms appeared
To travellers late abroad.—
At dawn old Owen's house was found
Defaced, and smoking on the ground;
And by yon little well,
His corse the affrighted shepherds spied,
Breathless, in blood his garments dyed—
A dagger wound was in his side,—
—By human hand he fell.
Of Helen not a trace was seen—
Some silken ringlets on the green
Might from her head be torn:
In vain we searched for many a day—
And what her fate was none may say,
Nor whither she was borne."

Oct. 7, 1817.

SONG FROM THE GAELIC.

Air—"*Mary Luoch,*"

O my lovely Mary,
Mary of Glenfyne,
O delightful Mary,
Mary, thou art mine!

O my charming Mary,
Thou dost far outshine
All the girls that tarry
In this glen of thine!

Sweet in Barva's wild-wood
Young affection grew,
Ere our simple childhood
Love's dominion knew—
Kindness then grew stronger,
It was greatly more
Than e'er was felt by lover
In the world before!

Minstrel voices singing
Ne'er were half so sweet
As the wild notes ringing
When my love I meet!
Linnets, with their wooing,
Thrushes on each spray,
Ring-doves, with their cooing,
Blithly hail the day!

Sweet are Barva's bowers
When the sun is high,
Fresh the leaves and flowers
That our couch supply;
Kings I do not envy,
Splendour has no charms,
Which I'd take for Mary
Folded in my arms!

*O my lovely Mary, &c.**

HIGHLAND SONG.

Air—"*Mo nighean dhu.*"

O sweet is she who thinks on me,
Behind yon dusky mountain;
In greenwood bower at gloaming hour
We'll meet by Moran's fountain.

My hounds are on the hills of deer,
My heart is in the valley,
Where dark-hair'd Mary roams to hear
The woodlarks singing gaily.
O sweet is she, &c.

My hawks around the forest fly,
And wonder that I tarry,
While lone on thymy banks I lie
And dream of dark-hair'd Mary.
O sweet is she, &c.

Her step so light,—her eye so bright,—
Her smile so sweet and tender,—
Her voice like music heard by night
As o'er the wilds I wander!
O sweet is she, &c.

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* For this and the following song we are indebted to the kindness of Mr Campbell, the ingenious editor of "Albyn's Anthology." The first is said to have been composed many years ago by a clergyman in Argyleshire; the other was written expressly for Mr Campbell's work; in the second volume of which both will appear, along with the original words and music, early in the ensuing winter.

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Her neck which silken ringlets shroud,—
Her bosom's soft commotion,—
Like sea-mew hovering in the cloud,
Or heaving on the ocean!
O sweet is she, &c.

Her heart is gay as fawn at play,
Among the braes of braiken,—
Yet mildly dear as melting tear
That minstrel tales awaken.
O sweet is she, &c.

And she is mine—the dark-hair'd Maid!
My bright, my beauteous Mary!—
The Flower of Ardyn's lowly glade,
Shall bloom in high Glengary!
O sweet is she, &c.

SONNET.

Addressed to a Lady whose Husband was then on a Visit to the West Indies.

O LADY! dost thou see yon setting sun
Descending glorious in the western sky,
With crimson car, and gorgeous pageantry,
While rosy eve her empire has begun?
And wakes yon sinking orb thy sighs for One
Whom he is gone to visit o'er the seas,
Lone, wearied, wakeful, chiding oft the breeze,
While all his thoughts on thee and rapture run!
The sweet West Wind, fair saint, shall visit thee
With balmy breath, to fan thy flowing tear!
Even now it meets thee on thy bended knee,
And like a seraph's voice salutes thine ear;
For it hath floated o'er the wide wild sea,
And soothingly it sings,—"Thy Lord will soon be here!"

STANZAS.

WHILE thou at eventide art roaming
Along the elm-o'ershadowed walk,—
While past the eddying stream is foaming,
And falling down,—a cataract,—
Where I to thee was wont to talk,
Think thou upon the days gone by,
And heave a sigh!

When sails the moon above the mountains,
And cloudless skies are purely blue,
And sparkle in the light the fountains,
And darker frowns the lonely yew,—
Then be thou melancholy too,
When pausing on the hours I proved
With thee beloved!

When wakes the dawn upon thy dwelling,
And lingering shadows disappear;
As soft the woodland songs are swelling
A choral anthem on thine ear;
Muse—for that hour to thought is dear,
And then its flight remembrance wings,
To by-past things.

To me through every season dearest;
In every scene,—by day, by night,
Thou present to my mind appearest,
A quenchless star, for ever bright,—
My solitary, sole delight,—
Alone in wood, by shore, at sea,
I think of Thee!

MEDICAL ADVICE.

Extracted from the Schola Salernitana, *and adapted to every rank, from the Prince to the Peasant.*

ANGLORUM Regenti, scribit Machaon Edinæ,
Consilium valenti, forsan laborum fine,

Consilium.

Si cupis esse sanus, sit tibi parca manus,
Pone gulæ metas, ut sit tibi longior ætas.
Inter prandendum, sit sæpe parumque bibendum.
Ut sis nocte levis, sit tibi cœna brevis.

Translation.

If health's your wish, let temperance rule the roast,
Nor of high-season'd dainty dishes boast;
At your best meals, tho' oft yet scant'ly drink;
Take a light supper, would you clearly think.

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONOURABLE HENRY ERSKINE, A FAITHFUL FRIEND FOR MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS.

FRIENDSHIP remains through changing time,
Remains superior and sublime,
Pure and unmix'd, its joys we share,
No selfish passion rankles there.
Balm to the wounded heart's corroding woes,
Peace to the weary spirit's final solemn close.

I've lost a friend—a friend the best of men,
Vain were the hope to find his like again.
But why lament!—Our life is but a span,
Here, joys and cares fill up the days of man.
In spheres more blest, the good shall ever find
Freedom from pain of body and of mind.
Let me then strive, through my remaining days,
To join my friend by Virtue's pleasant ways.

MEDICUS SEPTUAGENARIUS.

Edinburgh, 8th Oct. 1817.

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

Some time ago Messrs Turnbull and Ramsay of Glasgow made a discovery very important to the arts, by purifying the pyroligneous acid or acid of wood, so as to be superior in every respect to vinegar made by fermentation from the vine, malt, sugar, or any other substance from which it is commonly obtained. Its colour is transparent, taste and flavour agreeable; it is not liable to lose its acid properties, nor become mouldy by keeping any length of time in any climate. By its superior strength and incorruptible qualities, it is admirably calculated for sea stores, for the preservation of vegetables in pickling, and animal substances. It has received the decided approbation of several of the Professors of Chemistry in the universities, as well as of many eminent medical practitioners and men of science, as pure acetous acid. This improvement is of great importance in a national point of view, by making pure vinegar from the brushwood of our own country, thereby not encroaching on the stock of human food, which at all times is of consequence, and particularly so in times of scarcity. With this acid Messrs Turnbull and Ramsay make saccharum saturni, verdegris, and all other combinations where vinegar is used, in the greatest perfection.

Mr Thomas Taylor has issued proposals for printing by subscription, in one volume octavo, Select Works of Plotinus, on the following subjects, viz.—On the Virtues; on Dialectic; on Matter; against the Gnostics; on the Impassivity of Incorporeal Natures; on Eternity and Time; on the Essence of the Soul; a Discussion of Doubts relative to the Soul; on the Immortality of the Soul; on the Three Hypostases that rank as the principles of things; on the generation and order of things after the first; on Gnostic Hypostases, and that which is beyond them; that the Nature which is beyond Being is not intellective, and what that is which is primarily, and also that which is secondarily intellective; on Intellect, Ideas, and real Being; on the The Good, or The One: accompanied by Extracts from the Treatise of Synesius on Providence, translated from the Greek.

Nearly ready for publication, the Diary of John Evelyn, Esq. printed from the original MSS. in the library at Wotton: embracing the greatest portion of the life of the celebrated author of "The Sylva, a Discourse of Forest Trees," and other works of long established celebrity. This extremely curious and valuable journal contains his observations and remarks on Men, Manners, the Politics, Literature, and Science of his Age, during his travels in France and Italy, his residence in England towards the latter part of the Protectorate, and his connection with the Courts of Charles II. and the two subsequent reigns, interspersed with a variety of novel and interesting anecdotes of the most celebrated persons of that period. To this will be added original private letters from Sir Edward Nicholas (Secretary of State) to King Charles I. during some important periods of that reign, with the king's answers in his own handwriting, now first given to the world; also selections from the correspondence of John Evelyn, and numerous letters from Sir Edward Hyde (Lord Clarendon) to Sirs Edward Nicholas and Richard Brown, during the exile of the British Court. The whole highly illustrative of the events of those times, and affording numerous new facts to the historian and politician. The work will be comprised in 2 vols. royal 4to, and will be embellished with authentic portraits, engraved by the best masters, partly from most exquisite drawings of the celebrated Nanteuil, now in the possession of the Evelyn family, comprising original likenesses of John Evelyn; of Sir Richard Brown, ambassador to the Court of France; of Mary his daughter, wife of John Evelyn; and of Sir Edward Nicholas: views of Wotton-house, one of which is worked from an original etching by John Evelyn; and other interesting plates.

Mr Joyce Graves has just announced as ready for delivery, The Naturalist's Pocket Book, or Tourist's Companion; containing a brief introduction to the various branches of Natural History, with approved methods for collecting and preserving quadrupeds, birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, shells, corals, seeds, plants, woods, fossils, minerals, &c. with general outlines of the habits, economy, and places of resort of the various genera of Zoological subjects; embellished with plates illustrative of the particulars on which the generic characters are founded, and figures of instruments necessary in the different branches of Natural History.

Mr Doncaster, patentee of the Hydrostatic Ship, having lately effected an improved hydrostatic power, applicable to mill purposes, as well as to propelling navigable vessels, proposes to give shortly a second edition of his useful little tract, entiled "Practical Political Economy," in order to include it as well as a series of other improvements in its construction, apparatus, and materials. This pamphlet, which points out the means and advantages of effecting a supply of provisions to the London markets by water carriage, has al-

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ready, although but lately published, had the honour of originating the adopted measure of the junction of the eastern and western seas by canal communication between Carlisle and Newcastle upon Tyne; and it is by no means impossible it may, in due process of time, prove the means also of establishing a new northern and a western capital, in maritime situations.

The following arrangements have been made for Lectures at the Surrey Institution, during the ensuing season:—

1. On *Ethics*, by the Rev. W. B. Collier, D.D. F.A.S. To commence Nov. 4, at seven in the evening, and to be continued on each succeeding Tuesday.

2. On *Chemistry*, by J. Lowe Wheeler, Esq. To commence on Nov. 7, and to be continued on each succeeding Friday evening.

3. On the *British Poets*, from Chaucer to Cowper, by Wm. Hazlitt, Esq. To commence early in January 1818.

4. On *Music*, by W. Crotch, Mus. Doc. Professor of Music in the University of Oxford. To commence early in February 1818.

A case which lately occurred in the Royal Dispensary for the Diseases of the Ear, where a boy born deaf and dumb was restored to the use of both hearing and speech, will shew the rapid improvement in the medical practice of the present day. The pathology of the ear, neglected till of late, has now attained a vast importance by the institution of a dispensary for its diseases; and the subject of deafness being now taken up by the Royal College of Surgeons as the theme of their annual prize, will tend to throw additional light on this interesting malady.

Mr Beauford, M.A. of Dublin, is preparing for the press a New Theory of Magnetism, especially the phenomena which relate to the variation of the magnetic needle; deduced from observation, and demonstrated on true philosophical and mathematical principles. In the investigation, magnetism in general is ascribed to the effect of caloric on the globe of the earth. In magnetism, at least as far as it affects the needle, (the author says,) there are four magnetic poles near the terrestrial poles; which magnetic poles in each class have a rotation from east to west, proceeding from the effect of the perturbating powers of the sun and moon, in the difference between the centripetal and centrifugal forces. The revolution of the northern magnetic poles round the earth's axis and poles is complete in 1073 years, and that of the southern in 864 years. The northern affirmative magnetic pole has this year, (1817,) at the time of the vernal equinox, lat. 71° 24′ N. lon. 83° W.; the negative pole, lat. 82° 12′ N. lon. 114° 19′ E. The southern affirmative magnetic pole has lat. 65° 56′ S., lon. 156° 58′ E.; the negative, lat. 76° 46′ S. lon. 264° 28′ E. from Greenwich. And the places of the mean or operative pole derived from the effect of the four other poles, and to which the needle tends—northern lat. 73° 36′ N. lon. 84° 54′ W.; southern lat. 68° 45′ S. lon. 145° 30′ E. From the effects and places of these mean operative poles proceed the various phenomena of the magnetic needle; as the variation, dip, position, nutation, rotation, and secular variation.

An account of the very extraordinary case of Margaret McEvoy, a blind young woman at Liverpool, who can read by the points of her fingers, has been transmitted to Dr Thomson by the Rev. T. Glover, and published in the last Number of the Annals of Philosophy. A publication on this curious phenomenon is announced, with which, when it appears, we shall take an early opportunity to make our readers acquainted.

Mr Thomas Yeates has constructed a variation chart of all the navigable oceans and seas between latitude 60° north and south, from accurate documents obtained of Spanish surveys in the Pacific Ocean; journals at the Hydrographical Office, Admiralty; and at the East India House; collated, with tables of the variation recently formed from the observations of different navigators. This chart is delineated on a new plan, all the magnetic meridians being drawn upon it throughout, for every change of one degree in the variation; and it will be elucidated with explanatory notes, and a brief statement of the late discovery of an aberration in the variation, resulting from the deviation or change of a ship's head from the magnetic meridian, accompanied by the rules invented by the late Captain Flinders, for correcting the same.

The Duchess of Rutland has received the gold medal of the Society for the Encourgement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, for experiments in raising Oaks. Her grace's conclusion on five several experiments are, that the best method is "to sow the acorns where they are to remain, and, after hoeing the rows two years, to plant potatoes, one row only between each row of oaks, for three years; decidedly, in her opinion, the best method, as the facts themselves will prove. The benefit of the oaks from planting potatoes is incalculable; for, from the said experiments, and from others made at the same time, and with the same seedling oaks, planted with a mixture of larch, spruce, beech, birch, and other forest trees, and also with oaks only,—in all cases she has found that potatoes between the rows are so superior to all other methods, that the oaks will actually grow

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as much the first four years with them as in six without them. It appears," she observes, "that the great secret in raising plantations of oaks is, to get them to advance rapidly the first eight years from seed, or the first five years from planting, so as the heads of the trees are completely united, and become a smothering crop: after this is effected, the trees will appear to strive to outgrow each other, and will advance in height rapidly; they will be clean straight trees, to any given height: experiments have proved the fact, which may be verified by viewing Belvoir." It is impossible, in recording these important experiments, to withhold our admiration of the illustrious lady in whom they originated, and by whom they have been successfully directed. Distinguished alike for superior beauty, for every domestic virtue, for high birth and rank, and for personal graces which eclipse the blaze of family jewels—she has nevertheless rendered her opportunities subservient to science, and set an example to her sex of pursuits at once useful and innocent.

FRANCE.

At a late meeting of the Royal Academy of Sciences, M. Moreau de Jonnes communicated some particulars respecting the great viper of Martinique, in addition to those formerly given to the public. It is a fact that this serpent grows to the length of seven or eight feet, and to a diameter of four or five inches. M. Desfourneaux, a planter of Martinique, some months since killed one of these reptiles which had attained these dimensions, and which, when erect on its tail, would have considerably exceeded the height of a man. Upon an examination of the membranous sheath with which the mouth is laterally furnished, there were found on both sides sixteen channelled teeth of different sizes, but only two of these having reached their full growth, served as formidable weapons to this enormous reptile. By a singularity worthy of remark, the trigonocephalus possesses the faculty of living alike in the marshes on the same level with the sea, and on the tops of mountains among the clouds, notwithstanding the difference of temperature, which is equal to twelve degrees of the centigrade thermometer, and which, in the torrid zone, produces a very powerful impression on organized bodies. M. Desfourneaux has recently found, on ascending the volcanic peaks of Carbel, four of these vipers inhabiting the lofty forests of those mountains, 1600 yards above the Atlantic.

Memoirs of the History of the Fifty Years from 1760 to 1810, by the late Abbé Georgel, a distinguished member of the order of the Jesuits, and confidential secretary to Cardinal de Rohan, are about to be published at Paris in 3 volumes. This work is said to excite great interest from the talents and means of information possessed by the author, who died in 1813.

By a royal ordinance of July 9th, several persons have obtained patents for steam-engines. Among these are, Mr Isaac Cox Barnet, for a machine producing immediately, according to him, a rotary motion; —Mr Wm. Paxton, for the importation and improvement of a new steam-engine; —M. Honore Dalmas, residing at Castelnaudary, for a machine for applying the action of fire to the rotary motion of flour-mills and other purposes;—M. Bagneris for additions and improvements to the steam-engine;—the Marquis de Jouffroy for the same. Several patents have also been granted by the same ordinance to different persons for extraordinary amusements: as, for example, to Sieur Benoiste, restaurateur on the Boulevard of Mont Parnasse for his *Promenade Suisse;* to the Sieurs Beury, Vallede, and Ruggieri, for the *Saut de Niagara;* to Sieur Lesigne, for machinery for setting in motion fifteen carriages at once, and which he calls *Promenade Dedallenne.*—Other patents have been granted to Sieur Allix for the manufacture of wigs that are not affected by perspiration; Briard for a cosmetic, called by him *Eau de Rosieres;* Fabre for a cosmetic called *des Templiers;* Darcet for processes for extracting the gelatine contained in bones; Cabany for a copying machine; Gengembre, senior and junior, for apparatus applicable to the system of illumination by inflammable gas; Thilorier for processes for the construction of *radeaux plongeurs;* Sartoris for a kind of fire-arms which is loaded at the breech; Blanchet and Binet for a hydraulic crane; Marguerite for plating needles with silver; Passe for a lamp which he terms *hydrostatique regulateur;* Lousteau for making hats of cotton or other fibrous substances; Matthieu de Dombasle for a still called *combineur hydropneumatique;* Lemire, senior and junior, for making nails cold; and Jomard de Savergue for making a liquor which he calls *kilischi.*

A Society of German literati at Paris have announced a periodical work, to commence in the month of October, with the title of *Chronique Allemande de Paris,* which, to the exclusion of politics, is designed to embrace whatever is calculated to exhibit the character of the Parisians in regard to morals, arts, sciences, and society.

The Abbé de Robineau, to whom physics is indebted for ingenious essays, and new explanations of the wonders of the loadstone, has communicated a new theory, by which he explains, with the greatest facility, the phenomena of vision.

M. de la Salle, amongst other literary

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essays of great local importance, has given an interesting sketch of the history of the Troubadours.

The *Annales Encyclopédiques* of M. Millin add to the reputation of their author: the last number is rich in biography; containing that of P. Lanzi, the celebrated antiquary; M. le Comte de Choiseul Gouffier, ditto; and M. Suard, the perpetual secretary of the French Academy, and translator of Robertson's works.

A French physician has in his cabinet two galvanic piles, sixteen inches high, which alternately attract a pretty heavy beam. The continual oscillation of the beam gives motion to a pendulum, which has never stopped for three years. The physician is now endeavouring to give to this movement an isochronism, which may render it more useful.

Dr Vincent, surgeon of the first class of the port of Brest, has written a letter to the inspector of the service of health of the marine, under date of the 18th June 1817; in which he informs him, that he has verified the experiments of Reaumur, on the reproduction of the members torn from crabs, lobsters, crawfish, &c. The joint of the member torn off at first becomes covered with a horny operculum, which at length exfoliates shoots, and the shoots, rounded and solitary, also possessing a horny exterior, incloses the new member; still membranous, artfully rolled upon itself, and deprived of solidity, it acquires this property only some time after, in unrolling and propelling the shoot, which by this mechanism is driven out by the very part to which it served as a matrix: from which we perceive, that there is a great analogy between this process of animal nature, and the shoots or buds of vegetables.

M. Levrat, a French chemist, has discovered that the seed of the yellow water flag of marshes, known to botanists by the name of *Iris pseuduceros*, when dried by heat and freed from the friable shell which envelopes it, produces a beverage similar to coffee, but much superior in taste and flavour.

AUSTRIA.

The number of German periodical works published at Vienna is more than a dozen. Two of them deserve to rank among the most celebrated in Germany. The first and most important of these publications is the *Archiv für Geographie, Historie, Staatsund Kriegs-kunst*, conducted by Baron von Hormayr, which contains not only very excellent historical essays by the best writers of the Austrian monarchy, but also many rare documents of still greater value. The *Vaterländischen Blätter*, edited by the well known Austrian writer, Dr Bartory, is designed to convey statistical information, and diffuse useful knowledge. It affords of course not much entertainment, and its value is therefore not duly appreciated by many. Of the periodical works for the fashionable world, the principal is the *Weiner Moden Zeitung, und Zeitschrift für Kunst schöne Litteratur und Theater*. Under the first title it gives weekly a good plate with description either of dresses or furniture; but the most important part of the work belongs to the other heads. The theatrical critic, William Hebenstreit, is one of the most distinguished connoisseurs in Germany, who unites French severity with German gravity and science. It is universally acknowledged that no native publication ever possessed his equal in this line.—Next comes the *Sammler*, (the Gleaner,) a work of pure entertainment, printed with the same typographical elegance as the preceding, but chiefly composed of articles from the latest Almanacs, the *Morgenblatt, Erheiterungen*, &c. This robbery—which ought perhaps to be forgiven for the sake of the title, is not even excused by a judicious selection. The notices respecting the theatres of Vienna and the principal provincial theatres, are the best part of the work, and though they do not enter so deeply into the subject as M. Hebenstreit, they seem in general just, impartial, and satisfactory. The *Weiner Theater-Zeitung* is as far inferior to the two preceding in intrinsic merit as in external appearance. In low and vulgar language it dispenses praise and censure in a manner not at all calculated to obtain credit, and takes pleasure in decrying all that is noble and sublime in the art which it is incapable of attaining. The *Magazin für Zietungs-Leser*, (Magazine for the Readers of Newspapers,) which ought rather to be called the Magazine for those who do not read Newspapers, is a compilation from German newspapers and journals that might well be dispensed with. At the head of the political papers is the *Oestreichische Beobachter*, perhaps the most important German journal for the future historian, on account of the documents connected with the history of the times, which it gives in a more complete form than any other similar publication. Nothing can be more tedious than the *Wiener Zeitung*, which is in general so occupied with promotions, honorary distinctions, and charitable contributions, that very little space is left for political events; indeed, the conductors seem to care very little whether it circulates or not. A popular political publication, the *Wanderer*, seems designed to make that part of the public for whom the newspapers properly so called are too dry, acquainted with the history of the times in an entertaining manner: but besides political transactions, it contains so many kinds of essays, and its plan is so comprehensive,

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that it would be difficult to determine its precise limits. Many of the papers in it, however, possess great merit. *Die Briefe des Eipeldauers* is a satirical work written in the vulgar dialect. In addition to the above, there appear at Vienna one Greek and two Bohemian newspapers, a French and an Italian journal, a *Literatur-Zeitung*, *Kleine Schriften historish-statistischen Inhalts*, with plates and maps in monthly numbers, and *Abendunterhaltungen*. The number of periodical works, and the richness of those which consist of original matter, bespeak the great number of literati resident at Vienna, for it is singular enough, that the writers in the provinces contribute very little to these literary enterprises.

SAXONY.

Dr Eichhoff, of Dresden, is engaged upon a history of all the European sovereigns that have been put to death from the time of Charlemagne to Louis XVI.

Richard Roos (Engelhard) is preparing a life of Böttiger, the inventor of porcelain. Lindau has presented the visitors of Dresden with an estimable and entertaining guide through that city. Fashion has this summer introduced a new application of cork, which is now used for making ladies' hats. They differ from straw hats in this particular, that the material is put together in the manner of fish-scales.

PRUSSIA.

The contest for and against animal magnetism continues at Berlin; but as it has not yet led to any result, the king has offered a prize of 300 ducats for the essay which shall most satisfactorily demonstrate the efficacy or futility of this new remedy. Meanwhile, physicians only are permitted to magnetise, and these are required to furnish the government with a statement of their experiments and success in each individual case.

DENMARK.

At a late meeting of the Scandinavian Literary Society, Professor Broenstedt read an essay on an ancient chronicle in rhyme, by Robert Vace, canon at Caen, and court-poet to Henry II. in the 12th century. This chronicle, which has never been published, relates the exploits of Hasting, Rollo, and the first Normans in Bretagne and France. M. Broenstedt gave last winter a course of tures on Modern Greece, its inhabitants, antiquities, &c. which he will resume next winter.

The young scholar, M. Rask, advantageously known by his Icelandic Grammar, and his profound knowledge of the language and antiquities of Iceland, has undertaken a new journey for the elucidation of the antiquities of the North. His first excursion was to Iceland, where, supported by the Danish government, he resided three years. The regions of Caucasus are now the object of his curiosity; patronized on this occasion also by the government, he is going to seek among the Caucasian tribes the origin of the ancient northern language and mythology. The idea of this journey seems to have been excited in M. Rask by his prize essay, not yet printed, "On the Origin of the Icelandic Language." In this essay he has investigated the original sources, and clearly proved the great similarity of the above-mentioned language to the Greek and Roman. The learned Icelander Finn Magnussen, professor at the university of Copenhagen, has expressed the same opinion in his Lectures on the mythic and ethic Poems of the ancient or Sämund Edda.

The latest work on Icelandic literature, published at Copenhagen, is that of the meritorious professor Nyerup, author of the dictionary of the Scandinavian Mythology, (Copenhagen, 1816;) and contains the introduction to Lectures on the history of the study of the Northern Mythology.

The Royal Economical Society of Copenhagen, founded in 1768, now numbers 300 members, and its annual receipts, including the royal grants, amount to 6000 rix-dollars. Ten volumes of the Transactions of this Society have appeared, and they contain many very important papers. Other useful treatises also are published at the expence of this Society, which moreover possesses a very fine and instructive collection of models. The late Major-General Classen bequeathed to it not only his collections of minerals, models, and mathematical instruments; but also his valuable library, which was particularly rich in mathematical works, and is now open to the public. At the expence of this Society useful instruments for agriculture and other branches of industry are distributed, various kinds of fruit-trees out of its nurseries are sold at a low price to the peasants, and an encouragement is afforded to the formation of small libraries of books adapted to the use of the lower classes. Such collections are now to be found in many villages.

RUSSIA.

Count Nicolai Petrowitsch Rumanzow has recently received from Canova a most beautiful colossal statue of Peace in white marble. In one hand she holds an olive-branch, and supports herself with the other against a pillar on which are these three inscriptions:—*Peace of Abo*, 1743—*Peace of Kainardshi*, 1774—*Peace of Frederickshamm*, 1809.—The first was concluded by Alexander Iwanowitsch, who was raised on the occasion to the rank of a count; the second, with the Porte, by

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his son, Peter Alexandrowitsch; and the third by the present Count, who has caused this statue to be executed as a memorial of the services rendered by his ancestors to their country. Four works by the same artist, which lately adorned the palace of Malmaison, are now at the *Hermitage*:—a female dancer, Paris, Cupid and Psyche, and Hebe.

The death of Otto von Richter, the traveller, a man equally distinguished for superior qualities of the head and heart, has excited universal sympathy in the Russian metropolis. He was the eldest son of a most respectable Livonian family, whose thirst of knowledge impelled him to explore the inhospitable regions of Africa and Asia. In company with Lindman the Swede, he had traversed all Egypt and Nubia, and had discovered in the territory of Meroe very considerable remains of ancient architecture, not observed by any preceding visitor. A firman from the Grand Signior procured the travellers the requisite protection and support to enable them to penetrate to Ibrim, the capital of Nubia. Much as he was pleased with the inhabitants, who are remarkable for personal beauty, and with their way of living, he deemed it advisable to return to Cairo for fear of a civil war, which actually broke out soon after his departure. At Cairo the travellers ran the greatest risk of their lives in August 1815, from the insurrection of the Arnauts, who not only plundered all the magazines and shops in several quarters of the city for two successive days, but for eight nights running attacked the quarter of the Franks, which, however, was saved by the courageous resistance of the Europeans assembled there. From Cairo the travellers proceeded by water to Jaffa. At Acre they parted, and Richter went alone by way of Tyre and Sidon to Balbeck, the ruins of which made a deeper impression upon him than the vast masses of Luxor and Memphis. He then traversed Syria as far as the mountains of Lebanon, and even visited Tadmor in the Desert. In the wild marshy environs of the ancient Ephesus, he contracted the germs of a putrid fever, which carried him off in a few days at Smyrna.

The Emperor has granted a pension of 4000 rubles to the Chevalier Schukovsky, the favourite poet of the Russian nation, "not only," as the *ukase* issued on the occasion expresses it, "as a token of his favour, but also to secure to him the necessary independence." This grant was accompanied with a diamond ring from the Emperor.—Schukovsky was born in 1783, in the Government of Tula, and educated in the school belonging to the university of Moscow. His poems, which have been published in two volumes, are very highly esteemed. Many of them are translations or imitations of the German, as, for example: Burger's Leonora, Schiller's Cassandra, &c. He spends the greatest part of the year at Dorpat, and was last year honoured with the diploma of doctor of philosophy by that university. An Epistle to the Emperor Alexander on the last campaign, and a lyric poem—The Bard on the Ruins of the Kreml—are considered as his best compositions.

The "Society of the Friends of the National Literature," at Kasan performed a funeral service in honour of Dershawin, the poet, a native of that city, who died last year. Dershawin's Ode on God experienced an extraordinary distinction; for the Emperor of China had it translated into the Chinese language, printed on costly stuff, and hung up in his apartment—an honour which scarcely any other poet of any nation has to boast of.

Among the publications which have lately appeared at Petersburgh, are *Ephemerides Russes, politiques, litteraires, historiques et necrologiques, par Spada*, and *Description des Objets les plus remarquables de la Ville de Petersbourg et de ses Environs, par Paul Swinin*, author of Picturesque Travels in North America. The designs are neat and faithful, and the text, in Russian and French, entertaining. An English translation of *Atala*, by the chaplain of the English factory at Cronstadt, is just published. An *Essai critique sur l'Histoire de Livonie*, in 3 vols. by Count de Bray, Bavarian Ambassador to the Court of Russia, is in the press. The whole edition of this performance is destined as a present to the university of Dorpat, the produce to be laid out on historical works for its library. General Jomini is engaged upon a history of the last two campaigns, for which Field Marshal Barclay de Tolly has, among others, contributed very interesting materials. As the climate of Russia does not agree with him, he has availed himself of the leave of absence granted him for two years, and returned to Switzerland.

The Society of Sciences at Warsaw offers a prize of 50 gold ducats for the best directions for the preservation of health. It does not want a scientific treatise, but a popular and useful book.

EAST INDIES.

The rich, learned brahman of Calcutta, Ramohun-Roy, who is versed in the Sungskrit, Persian, and English languages, has paid a visit to the missionaries at Serampore. He has not renounced his caste, and this enables him to visit the richest families of Hindoos. Since the publication of his translation of the *Vedant*, several respectable inhabitants of Calcutta have declared themselves *Mono-theists*, and have united in a society, with a view to mutual

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assistance in adopting a system of worship conformable to their faith in one eternal, unchangeable, omnipotent, and omnipresent Deity,—regarding all other gods, pretended gods, or representatives of God as blasphemers and impostors.

The following is the state of the versions of the Scriptures under the care and conduct of the missionaries in the establishment at Serampore:—

1. The whole Old and New Testaments are translated, printed, and extensively circulated, in the languages of Bengal and Orissa.

2. The New Testament is printed and circulated in five other languages—the Sungskrit, Hindee, Mahratta, Punjabee, and Chinese; in the two former, one half of the Old Testament is printed also; and in the remaining three, considerable progress is made.

3. In sixteen languages a commencement has been made in printing the New Testament. In some of them considerable progress has been made, though we are not enabled to state how far each distinct translation is advanced.

4. Preparations for translation and printing, in a greater or less degree of forwardness, are made in fourteen different languages.

5. To these may be added the seven languages in which the New Testament has been printed, or is printing at Serampore, on account of the Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society; which will make the whole number amount to forty-four.

Dr Marshman has also been enabled to complete the translation of the whole Bible into the Chinese language.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

ARTS, FINE.

An Attempt to discriminate the Styles of English Architecture from the Conquest to the Reformation: preceded by a Sketch of the Grecian and Roman Orders, with Notices of nearly five hundred English Buildings. By Thomas Rickman. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the last Months of the Life of Mr Thomas Vaughan, late of Pentonville, and a short time Deputy Purveyor of the Forces under Lord Wellington. 12mo. 3s. 6d.

Memoirs of the Life of the Elder Scipio Africanus, with Notes and Illustrations. By the Rev. Edward Berwick. Post 8vo. 7s.

DIVINITY.

Practical Discourses. By the Author of a Monument of Parental Affection to a dear and only Son. 8vo.

The Importance of Christian Union on the Established Principles of our National Church. By the Rev. John Mackinnon, M.A.

EDUCATION.

The Dauphin Virgil, with Dr Carey's *Clavis Metrico-Virgiliana* prefixed.

A Lexicon of the Primitive Words of the Greek Language, inclusive of several leading Derivatives upon a new Plan of Arrangement. For the use of Schools. By the Rev. John Booth, Curate of Kirby Malzeard, near Ripon, Yorkshire. 8vo. 9s.

Questions Resolved; containing a plain and concise Explanation of near Four Hundred Difficult Passages of Scripture, and concise answers to important Questions in History, Biography, and General Literature. By the Rev. G. G. Scragg, A. M.

Institutes of Grammar as applicable to the English Language, or as introductory to the Study of other Languages, systematically arranged and briefly explained. To which are added, some Chronological Tables. By James Andrew, LL. D. 8vo. 6s. 6d.

Elements of Latin Hexameters and Pentameters. 2s.

GEOLOGY.

Transactions of the Geological Society. Vol. IV. Part II. 4to. L. 3. 3s.

HISTORY.

The History of the Ancient Noble Family of Marmyun, with their singular Office of King's Champion; collected from the Public Records. By T. C. Banks, Esq. 4to. L. 1, 15s. 8vo. 18s.

LAW.

The whole Proceedings on two Petitions in the Court of Chancery *ex parte* Crosby *in re* Crosby, and *ex parte* Wilkie *in re* Crosby, heard before the Lord Chancellor in Lincoln's Inn Hall, August 22, 1817. 1s.

A Treatise on the Game Laws, in which it is fully proved that except in particular Cases, Game is now, and has always been, by the Law of England, the property of the Occupier of the Land on which it is found and taken. With Alterations suggested for the Improvement of the System. By Edward Christian, Esq. Professor of the Laws of England, and Chief Justice of Ely. 8vo. 10s.

MEDICINE, SURGERY, &c.

Medico-Chirurgical Transactions published by the Medical and Chirurgical So-

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ciety of London. Vol. VIII. Part 1. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

The Principles of Diagnosis, Part II. The Diagnosis of the more general Diseases of Adults. By Marshal Hall, M. D. 8vo. 12s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Letter to an English Nobleman, respectfully submitted to the serious consideration of both Houses of Parliament: containing an Analysis of the British Constitution, and a Review of the Catholic Question, as it relates to Ireland in particular, and as it stands connected in its consequences with the happiness and security of Society in other countries. By Liberator. 8vo.

An Essay on Capacity and Genius; to prove that there is no original mental superiority between the most illiterate and the most learned of Mankind; and that no genius, whether individual or national, is innate, but solely produced by and dependent on circumstances. Also, an Inquiry into the Nature of Ghosts and other Appearances supposed to be supernatural. 8vo. 12s.

Inquiry into the Nature and History of Greek and Latin Poetry; more particularly of the Dramatic Species: tending to ascertain the Laws of Comic Metre in both those Languages. By John Sidney Hawkins, Esq. F. A. S. 8vo. 14s.

Narrative of a Singular Imposition practised upon the Benevolence of a Lady residing in the vicinity of Bristol, by a young woman of the name of Mary Wilcox, *alias* Baker, *alias* Caraboo, 8vo. 5s.

The Ladies' Receipt Book; containing a collection of valuable miscellaneous Receipts and choice Secrets in useful, elegant, and ornamental Arts, selected from various Authors. By William Pybus. 12mo. 1s. 6d.

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A Practical Chess Grammar; or, an Introduction to the Royal Game of Chess. By W. S. Kenny. 4to. 7s.

The Pamphleteer, No. XIX.; being an Impartial Record of the best Pamphlets of the day on all Subjects of General Interest. 6s. 6d.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Anecdotes of Remarkable Insects, selected from Natural History, and interspersed with Poetry. By Joseph Taylor. 18mo. 3s.

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Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Poor Laws; together with the Minutes of Evidence, and an Appendix. To which is added, the Report of the Committee of the House of Lords on the Poor Laws. 7s.

Hansard's Parliamentary Debates. Vol. XXXVI. Completing the late Session of Parliament. L. 1, 11s. 6d.

TOPOGRAPHY.

A Portfolio of Fragments relative to the History and Antiquities of the County Palatine and Duchy of Lancaster. By Matthew Gregson, Esq. of Liverpool. L. 3, 3s. large paper, L. 4. 4s.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

The Traveller's Guide through Switzerland. By M. J. Abel. Arranged and improved by Daniel Wall. Accompanied by a Complete Atlas, &c. 18mo. 16s.

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EDINBURGH.

The Edinburgh Encyclopædia, or, Dictionary of Arts, Sciences, and Miscellaneous Literature. Conducted by David Brewster, LL. D. Vol. XI. Part II. 4to. L. 1, 1s.

Sermons on the Doctrines and Duties of the Christian Life. By the late Archibald M'Lean of Edinburgh. To which is prefixed, a Memoir of his Life, Ministry, and Writings. By W. Jones. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

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Pharmacopœia Noscomii Regii Edinburgensis. Fsc. 8vo. 5s.

Pharmacopœia Collegii Regii Medicorum Edinburgensis. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

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The Edinburgh Observer, No. II. and III. 4to. 1s. each.

WORKS PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

Mr Ryley of Liverpool has in the press a new Novel, entitled Fanny Fitzyork, in 3 vols.

The Confession, or the Novice of St Clare, and other Poems, by the author of Purity of Heart, will soon appear.

In the course of the present month will be published, Part I. of an edition of the Hebrew Bible without Points, to be completed in four parts; which is uniform with the edition of the Hebrew Bible with Points, published in May last.

Mr Mason Chamberlin has issued proposals for publishing by subscription, in one octavo volume, The Path of Duty, a moral tale, in four books; Recollections of a Tour in Monmouthshire; Essays in prose and verse, with some lighter pieces.

In the press, Narrative of a Residence in Japan in the years 1811, 1812, and 1813, with observations on the country and people of Japan, by Capt. H. Golownin of the Russian Navy.

Madame de Stael's Memoirs of the Private Life of her Father (the celebrated M. Necker) are nearly ready for publication in one volume 8vo, in French and English.

The long expected Memoirs of Dr Benjamin Franklin, written by himself to a late period, and continued to the time of his death by his Grandson, will appear on the 1st of November. It will form one volume 4to, printed uniformly with his Private Correspondence.

The Rev. T. Kidd of Cambridge is preparing an edition of the complete Works of Demosthenes, Greek and Latin, from the text of Reiske, with collations and various readings.

Dr Turton is printing in a portable form a Conchological Dictionary of the British Islands.

Mr C. Feist will soon publish the Wreath of Solitude, and other poems, in one volume.

Observations on the Natural History of the Swallow Tribe, with a collateral statement of facts relative to their migration, and to their brumal torpidity, are printing by Mr T. Forster.

Several works from Dr Spursheim are expected from Paris to be published in England.

It is proposed to publish immediately after Christmas, and continue annually, a volume containing *the Chronology of the last Fifty Years*. The first edition will include all events from 1768, to Christmas 1817 inclusive; and in every subsequent year, the first year will be dropped, and the past year added. A contemporaneous chronology will thus be kept up, of events which are interesting to the whole living generation of men, or which can be operative in their effects upon passing and rising events.

A Treatise on Pulmonary Consumption is printing by George Henning, M.D. of Bridgewater.

The History of England, from its earliest period to the death of Elizabeth, is in the press; by the Rev. T. Morell, author of "Studies in History," to which this will form an additional volume. The concluding volume of the Series, in which the History of England will be brought down to the present period, will follow as quickly as possible.

The Rev. Ingram Cobbin, A. M. announces Philanthropy; a Poem.

The Lyrical poetry of the language has swelled, within the last century, from a mole-hill to a mountain; yet there exists no general collection of the exquisite pieces which constitute that species of poetry. The best is by Aikin, containing about two hundred songs; and there are two or three others, but none of them containing above three hundred songs. The Aviary, printed in 1773, contained about eleven hundred songs, decent and indecent; but it has long been out of print, and copies have sold at ten times the original cost. It is proposed, therefore, to stereotype a collection of from 2200 to 2500 pure, elegant, and popular songs, under the title of The Vocal Library; and the work is in such progress that it will be published before Christmas.

The City of Refuge; a poem, in four books, by Mr Thomas Quin; is in the press.

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MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

The election of members to the legislative bodies is just terminated, and the Chambers are ordered to meet upon the 5th of next month. The result of the elections for the department of the Seine presents a kind of compromise between the moderate royalists and the liberal party, there being an equal number returned of each; and on the whole it appears that this new election will still further diminish the influence of the violent royalists. It is the opinion of some, that a strong party in both Houses will be organized, as in the British Parliament, to act in systematic opposition to the measures of administration. This is the natural concomitant of every Government which is in any degree popular; and such, indeed, is the perpetual tendency of power to corruption and abuse, that it requires all the acuteness and activity of a hostile party to preserve it in tolerable moderation.

It is stated, in an article dated Frankfort, that a meeting of the allied sovereigns will take place in the course of the year, to adopt some final resolutions respecting the army of occupation in France. Manheim is spoken of as the place where this Congress will assemble; and two points will then be considered, namely, whether the army of observation can be reduced, or whether it cannot be altogether withdrawn.

The pages of the French journals have, for some time, been filled, for the most part, with details of trials for murders and treasons; and one of the latter cases is worthy of remark. It is entitled, the plot of the Black Pin, that being the sign by which the parties in the conspiracy were known to one another. They were ten in number, and, with one exception, disaffected officers, not above the rank of captain; their immediate object was the seizure of the castle of Vincennes, and their motive, the overthrow of the Bourbon dynasty. The evidence consisted, 1st, of the declarations of one Monnier, who came forward avowedly to save his own life; when at the instant of being carried off to execution; 2d, of the testimony of one Grimaldi, an acknowledged spy receiving a pension from the police; 3d, of that species of testimony so much relied upon in France, the admissions of the prisoners against each other and against themselves. The trial terminated with the acquittal of the accused.

A young man, named Brunet, son of a shoemaker, is now detained in prison at Rouen, on a charge of pretending to be *Louis Seventeenth*, who died in the Temple. —The imposition has been proved beyond a shadow of doubt, yet many persons of affluence support him in prison.

Finance.—On the 1st of this month, conformably to the law of the 28th of April 1816, the Baron Dutremblay, Director-General of the sinking fund, and of the funds of deposits and of judiciary consignments, furnished to the committee of supervision the account of the state of these funds during the third quarter of 1817. This account, which has been published officially, presents the following results:—

Sinking Fund.—Receipt to the 30th of June 1817, 41,544,485 fr. 50 c. viz. 40,000,000 fr. on the capital of dotation, and 1,544,845 fr. 50 c. on the expired arrears.

Receipt during the third quarter, 1817, 11,981,552 fr. 50 c. viz. 10,000,000 fr. on the capital of dotation, and 1,981,552 fr. 50 c. on the expired arrears.

General total of receipts to the 30th of September 1817, 53,526,038 fr.

Expenditure.—Previous to the 1st of July 1817, the fund had expended 41,218,669 fr. for the purchase of 3,410,175 fr. of annuity on the Great Book.

It has expended during the third quarter of 1817, 10,038,454 fr. 3 c. for the purchase of 746,175 fr. of annuity.

General total of expence to the 30th of September 1817, 51,257,123 fr. 39 c.

Total of annuities purchased, 4,156,350 fr.

Fund of Consignments and Deposits.—The receipts for judiciary and administrative consignments amounted on the 30th of September 1817, to 6,999,514 fr. 10 c. and the payments made, to 1,788,807 fr. 42 c.

Remains as well in the fund as in disposable effects in the porte feuille, 5,210,706 fr. 68 c.

The receipts made under the head of deposits amounted, on the 30th of September 1817, to 29,424,200 fr. and the payments made to 18,855,639 fr. 54 c. Re-

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mains in the fund 10,568,561 fr. 25 c. consisting of specie and annuities on the Great Book belonging to the different administrations or establishments.

ITALY.

Discontents have arisen among the people of Sicily, in consequence of the re-establishment of arbitrary dominion in that country. From the French journals it would appear, that these discontents had ripened into a plot, involving the parties concerned in it in the crime of high treason. The particulars of the charge are not given; but it is stated, that fourteen of the parties had been found guilty; that the ringleader was sentenced to be hanged, and then beheaded; and that by a refinement of cruelty, two of his accomplices were doomed to put the rope about his neck, and then to be imprisoned, one of them for 25 years, and the other for life; the rest were condemned to various periods of imprisonment. The execution took place on the 9th August.

The Ex-King of Rome, it is now stated, is destined, when he becomes of age, to enter into holy orders, and to be appointed Archbishop Primate of Ratisbon, and Arch-chancellor of the German empire. From the profession to which he is now designated, it is not improbable that he may one day attain the Popedom; and, among the many surprising changes resulting from the counter-revolution in France, it will not be one of the least to find young Napoleon asserting, with a high hand, those pretensions of the Holy See, of which his father was a most determined opponent.

The French refugees, exiled by the special ordonnance of the French Government, issued in July 1815, have been refused an asylum in the Neapolitan territories. The Government of Naples, in this instance, acted under a notification made to it by the ministers of the powers lately in alliance against France.

PORTUGAL.

The Portuguese Regency have lately experienced considerable difficulty in sending to the Brazils the levies ordered by their sovereign. One regiment, when ordered to embark, deserted its colours in bodies of fifties and hundreds; and another, more determined on disobedience, is said to have declared to their officers on parade, that they would not be transported, without having committed an offence, and threatened to repel force by force. The influence of Marshal Beresford was called in to appease the disorder, and he at length succeeded in gaining obedience to the will of Government; but, as it is said, upon a solemn promise given by himself, that such as desired it should be at liberty to return to Portugal in three years; and the men were allowed to take with them their wives and children.

NETHERLANDS.

In this country private associations have been formed, the members of which engage not to use any foreign manufactures of which similar fabrics can be obtained at home. These proceedings, however, will not present any effectual barrier against the introduction of British manufactures; as we may be assured, that individuals will always be governed by their own private interests; and will not, from any vague notions of public advantage, purchase at a dear market, while the goods in request can be had at a cheaper one.

PRUSSIA.

There has been established at Berlin a military school for swimming. Each company of the guards and grenadiers has a master for swimming. Already more than 1000 soldiers have learned to swim. It requires but fifteen days exercise to make them understand it.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The Emperor Alexander has published an ukase, announcing that no recruits will be required this year for the Russian army.

According to the German papers, some apprehensions are entertained that the death of Czerny Georges may lead to serious differences between Russia and Turkey. As soon, it is said, as intelligence of his execution was received at Petersburgh, a courier was immediately dispatched to the Russian Minister at Constantinople, commanding him to require categorically, and within fourteen days, a public declaration from the Government, disavowing this act, and ordering the exemplary punishment of the perpetrators; and, in case of the non-compliance of the Porte, he was immediately to leave Constantinople. It is not very likely, however, that the Turkish Government will be very tenacious in the defence of any of its inferior officers; and, if Russia will be satisfied with the sacrifice of the bashaw who ordered the execution complained of, this penalty will probably be cheerfully paid, rather than encounter the serious evil of a Russian war.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

It will be recollected, that a treaty was some time since concluded between the Government of the Ionian Isles, then, as now, under the protection of Britain and the Sublime Porte, by which the fort of Parga, on the mainland of Albania, was to be delivered up by the British to the Turks, on one condition among others, that the inhabitants should be at liberty to leave the place if they chose, and should receive from

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the Turkish Government proper indemnities for their possessions. It now appears, that, on proceeding to make the delivery on these terms, the greater part of the inhabitants were so appalled by the dangers which they had to apprehend from returning again under the Turkish yoke, that they resolved to profit by the alternative allowed them; in consequence of which, it was found that the Turkish Government would have to pay them in indemnities nearly twenty-four millions of piastres. The payment of such a sum was far beyond the expectation or the means of the Turkish monarch; the evacuation and surrender of the place has therefore been postponed, and four English officers have been sent to Parga, for the purpose of assisting the inhabitants in defending the place, and in securing them from a *coup de main*.

ASIA.

ISLAND OF JAVA.

Recent accounts from this island state, that the neighbourhood of Batavia had suffered from the eruptions of a burning mountain, and that this phenomenon had been attended with all the accompaniments of an earthquake. The waters rose to an unusual height, and trees were thrown down from the mountains. Two other mountains sunk into the earth, carrying with them their unfortunate inhabitants.

AFRICA.

STATES OF BARBARY.

The Barbary powers appear to be recovering fast from the panic and punishment which the British expedition inflicted on them last year. The Algerines, having renovated their navy, and restored the fortifications of their capital, are again proceeding to renew their piracies against the European trade; and it is singular, that the Russian Consul at Hamburgh, alarmed by their depredations, has notified to the captains of Russian vessels the necessity of providing themselves with Turkish passports, as a security against attack, assuring them, however, that the Emperor Alexander was resolved upon adopting the most effectual measures for altogether freeing the trade of Europe from this disgraceful annoyance.

The plague still continues to rage at Algiers with dreadful violence. The superstition of the natives, combined with their slovenliness, increases the number of its victims, and causes it to spread in every direction—no measure of precaution being employed to confine its range. By late accounts, from 200 to 300 are estimated to die daily. The fever has not extended to Tunis.

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

Letters from Norfolk, Virginia, of 13th August, state, that there had been a terrible inundation at Baltimore. On the 8th of August there was a torrent of rain, and on the following day the waters in Jones's Fall rose to an unusual height, carrying away every thing before it; mills, bridges, houses, &c. The injury done to Baltimore alone is estimated at upwards of one million of dollars—almost every bridge is said to have been carried away.

A Charleston paper of 5th September states, that the fever there had so much increased, it was expected its ravages would not be stopped until the appearance of frosty weather. According to the report of the Board of Health of that city, during the period of seven days, there had been 48 deaths, including 16 who were carried off by the yellow-fever.

SPANISH AMERICA.

Various communications have been received from different parts of South America, which appear quite decisive as to the success of the Independent arms in Venezuela. According to these accounts, which are sufficiently circumstantial, the Spaniards are confined to the towns of Barcelona and Cumana, while, on the side of Caraccas, they still hold possession of the level country to the northward of the immense plains which stretch into the interior. The fortress of Augustura and Guayana have both surrendered to the patriot forces, who now occupy all the country watered by the Orinoco. The different corps which were successfully engaged in these operations, amounting to 6000 men, are now disengaged, and about to proceed towards the coast, in order to expel their enemies from this part of the country. The generals who command this part of the Insurgent force are, Bolivar, Piar, Arismendi, Bermudes, and Cedeno. In addition to this force, Marino is at Cumanacoa with 2000 men, and Roxas at Maturin. Monagas and Zamaza, with their cavalry, are in the plains of Barcelona, while Paez, the Santa Fe chieftain, occupies all the country from Varinas to Calaboso.

The wreck of the royalist force in attempting to escape by the Orinoco, had fallen into the hands of Brion, the patriot admiral, who captured 14 of their largest vessels, one of which had the governor, Fitzgerald, General La Torre, and the bishop, on board, with the whole staff and treasure. The priests and friars had embarked all their private property and church plate on board the fleet; the royalist merchants all the dollars they had left in their

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coffers; and the officers all their ill-gotten pelf, chiefly derived from plunder and arbitrary contributions. Thus have the agents of Ferdinand themselves prepared for the patriots all the elements necessary to form a respectable navy and army.

We have also received bulletins of two actions between the royalist and independent troops in Upper Peru and Chili, in both of which the latter were signally successful. The first was an attack by General Belgrano, commander of the Buenos Ayres troops, upon the town of Tanja, lying on the road to Potosi, which, by a rapid march across the desert, he came upon by surprise, and, after some severe fighting, the place surrendered. The other action took place near Conception, one of the most southern points of Chili. Supposing the independent force to be weakened, by their having detached troops against Lima, the royalists here commenced an attack; but were routed with the loss of cannon, ammunition, and other military stores.

Letters from Buenos Ayres, of the 6th July, state, that it was there reported, and fully believed, that, after several friendly conferences between the officers of the insurgent and royalist armies in Upper Peru, an armistice had been concluded, and the preliminaries agreed upon, of a treaty of union and co-operation in shaking off the yoke of the mother country.

WEST INDIES.

Letters from Barbadoes state, that the patriot privateers swarm in such numbers in the West Indies, that it is dangerous for any vessels to cross the Atlantic, especially if they are laden with specie. So formidable are they now become, that Porto Rico is completely blockaded by them, and no vessel can approach that place with any degree of security.

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

SEPTEMBER.

9.—This day, John Jeffrey, mate of the Prince Edward revenue cutter, was brought to trial in Edinburgh, on an indictment, charging him with having landed a party of the crew of the said cutter on the island of Arran, in the month of March last, in search of smuggled whisky, part of which he seized, and that he commanded his party to fire upon the people who assembled on that occasion, by which two men and one woman were mortally wounded, and died soon after. After an impartial investigation, from which it clearly appeared that the conduct of Mr Jeffrey, who had been distinguished for firmness and forbearance, was occasioned solely by the violence and outrage of a misguided multitude, and was absolutely necessary to defend the lives of those who were under his command, the jury, with the entire approbation of the Court, returned an unanimous verdict of *Not Guilty*.

13.—*Grouse Shooting.*—The Marquis of Huntly's party has shot this season upwards of 1100 brace of grouse; and notwithstanding the very wet weather, the Marquis of Tavistock shot in three days 40, 45, and 51 brace.

16.—*Melancholy Event.*—A boy about 14 years of age, servant to a farmer near Peebles, having been taken ill, his master wrote to the mother, a widow, residing in Edinburgh, on Saturday, to come out and take him home; but the poor woman, either not apprehending immediate danger, or from a difficulty of getting away from her other children, of whom she has several, did not immediately attend to the request of the letter, and yesterday the boy was sent off to Edinburgh, a distance of 21 miles, in a cart, in charge only of a lad about his own age. The feelings of the poor woman may be conceived, when, upon going to lift her son from the cart, she found him a corpse.

Suicide.—On Sunday, at Langloan, a young woman, married only about ten months since, put a period to her existence whilst her husband and some of her relations were at church getting their child baptized. It is not easy to describe the husband's feelings when he found his wife, whom he had lately left, lifeless and bloody, lying beneath the bed with a razor in her hand, with which she had done the frightful act. She was much respected about the place, and lived with her husband in the closest amity.

19.—*New Coinage.*—It appears from an official account, that the total amount of new coin, consigned to various parts of the kingdom, including Guernsey, Jersey, and the Isle of Mann, was L. 2,902,830, 2s. for which there had been received L. 2,583,466, 6s. in old coin; and L. 198,095, 12s. 8d. in new coin returned. The balance is completed by a sum received in notes, and by L. 20,567, 2s. 11d. retained for expenses. The issues for the London stations amounted to L. 160,000; that to London bankers to L. 72,000.

The late coinage of sovereigns, half-

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crowns, shillings, and sixpences, is to be followed by a large issue of half-sovereigns and crowns, which are now in a forward state of preparation. We understand also that a new coinage of copper, on a very extensive scale, is determined on; and that necessary measures have already been adopted for carrying it into execution.

22.—*Burns's Monument.*—Charles Forbes, Esq. M. P. has most handsomely transmitted twenty guineas towards the erection of the monument at the birthplace of the bard, and the secretary to the subscribers has also received a liberal subscription of twenty guineas from the Glasgow Argyle Lodge, and five guineas from John Campbell, Esq. formerly representative in Parliament for the burghs of Ayr, Irvine, &c.

24.—*Assessed Taxes.*—Letters have just been circulated by Government to the surveyors of taxes, directing a general survey of houses and windows within their respective districts, it being expected that a considerable increase in the revenue will be obtained thereby, a large number not having been hitherto brought under assessment.

Emigration to America.—Number of emigrants that have sailed from the port of Belfast for America, from the 17th of March to the 21st of August inclusive:—For Philadelphia, 252;—New York, 321;—Norfolk, 40;—Baltimore, 251;—St Andrews, 252;—Quebec, 1023.——Total, 2149.

25.—*Bigamy.*—The wife of Joseph Rae, chimney-sweep, lately convicted and transported for cruel usage to his boy, brought a complaint before the Police Court, Edinburgh, against a man and his wife for an assault. She had only one witness (a chimney-sweep) to prove her case, who, in the course of his examination, turned out to be her husband, having married her since her first husband Rae was transported, and that, too, in the knowledge of her previous marriage. The magistrate ordered both man and woman to be detained, and sent to the sheriff, on the charge of bigamy.

The Navy.—The keel of the Portland, 60, has been laid down at Plymouth, to be built on the plan of the largest American frigates. Two brigs of war, to be called the Falcon and Frolic, have also lately been ordered to be built at the new dockyard, Pembroke, in addition to the following ships now building, and ordered to be built, at that yard, viz. *Building*—Belleisle, 74 guns; Hagard, 46 guns; and Melampus, 46 guns. *Ordered to be built*—Nereus, 46 guns; Mamadryad, 46 guns; and two revenue cutters.

The Prince Regent, it is said, has signified his intention of appointing an additional number of naval officers to be his Royal Highness's Aides-de-Camp, which honour is to be considered a step of promotion in the same way as it is understood in the army, when an officer was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the King.

26.—*Losses at Sea.*—All the exertions used to bring off the ship Fairy of Dundee, of 245 tons, lately stranded in the Orkneys, have failed; and no hopes now remain of the safety of the new brig Apollo, of 160 tons, Captain Patrick, supposed to have foundered, with all her crew, off Memel, where some of the crew's trunks have been washed on shore. These vessels, together with the new ship Latona, 330 tons; Concord, 174 tons; Lord Wellington, 160 tons; and new brig, Peace, 150 tons—make a loss to Dundee of 1269 tons of shipping within a few months.

Expences of the Law.—Five hundred and fifty-six causes were entered for trial on the last English northern circuit. Supposing the costs on each of these to amount to L. 100, which is a low estimate, the total expence incurred by the suitors is L. 55,600 for one half-year's law.

27.—*Bank of England.*—The Gazette of Tuesday the 23d contains the important notification, that the Bank of England will be ready, after the 1st of October, to pay cash for such of its notes, of every description, as are dated prior to the 1st of January in the present year. This is a material step to the complete resumption of cash payments; and in the present state of the currency, indeed, it does not appear that the Bank can incur any hazard by paying in cash.

We understand the Bank intend calling in the whole of the L. 1 and L. 2 notes at the conclusion of the present year, so that at the commencement of 1816, the smallest bank-note in circulation will be for L. 5.

Supply of Water to Edinburgh.—Among the improvements and useful works, now in progress in this city, we are happy to observe, from the necessary parliamentary notice of a bill for that purpose, that the inhabitants are likely soon to have an additional supply of water. The sources from which that supply is to be drawn are the *Black Spring* in the parish of Penicuik, and the *Crowley Spring* in the parish of Glencorse, both near the base of the Pentland Hills. From the acknowledged talents and practical abilities of the gentleman under whose superintendence the requisite surveys and levels have been taken, (James Jardine, Esq. Civil Engineer,) the public may confidently look forward to an abundant supply of this indispensable article. These springs, we are informed, will furnish an addition equal in quantity to four times the present supply; and the water, it is be-

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lieved, particularly that of the BlackSpring, is much purer than any derived from the present sources.

Old Bailey.—On Friday the 19th, Mary Chambers was tried for the murder of John Chambers, her husband. The deceased, when in a drunken state, struck his wife on the head with a stick, because she attempted to prevent his sending for more liquor: she happened to have a knife in her hand at the moment, and with it struck him the deadly blow. The jury found her guilty of *Manslaughter.*—She was decently dressed in mourning, and during the whole trial exhibited the sincerest sorrow for her situation: she shed tears all the time, and was assisted from the bar in a state of great agitation. She has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Death from Fright.—Lately a labouring woman at South Acre, Norfolk, after toiling some time in a field, laid herself down to rest: whilst she was sleeping, a toad fixed itself upon her breast; on awaking, she was so much frightened that she died immediately.

Arbroath.—At a meeting of the Incorporations of Arbroath, on Tuesday the 16th instant, they unanimously came to the resolution of petitioning the Magistrates to admit them and the burgesses to a participation in the right of electing the Town Council.

29.—*Aberdeen.*—On Saturday the 13th, the adjourned meeting of the burgesses of Aberdeen took place, (see p. 181, last number,) when several resolutions were entered into. Among others, it was resolved to oppose the bill to be brought into Parliament for imposing an assessment on the trade and heritage of the burgh to pay its debts; that the Magistrates have no power to grant any alteration in the set of the burgh; but that the burgesses might, in due time, find it necessary to apply to the King in Council for such an alteration in the set as would restore public confidence among the citizens.

On Wednesday the 24th, the old council, according to custom, proceeded to choose their successors; but the majority of those elected, when summoned to attend for the election of office-bearers, immediately sent in a refusal to assume office. The old council accordingly nominated the office-bearers, which was protested against by the Convener and Trades Councillors, who refused to vote on the occasion. Charles Forbes, Esq. of Auchmedden, M. P. was chosen Provost, but has declined acceptance; and the consequences of these proceedings must be the disfranchisement of the burgh.

Previous to retiring from office, the old council circulated the following extraordinary declaration:—"*Council Chamber, Aberdeen*, Sept. 19, 1817.—Looking to the present calamitous situation of the burgh of Aberdeen, the members of the Town Council, who have affixed their signatures to this paper, cannot allow themselves to retire from office, without expressing their sincere and unqualified regret that their endeavours to lighten and remove the public burdens have failed of that successful result which they have so earnestly desired; and that they are compelled to leave the affairs of the burgh in a state of embarrassment, which, as it has been a source of much vexation and distress to themselves, must still prove one of considerable difficulty to those who may be destined to succeed them, unless immediate steps are taken to redeem the credit of the corporation. In justice to themselves, however, they are desirous to place upon record their sentiments and opinions in reference to some of the various topics arising out of the embarrassments of the city treasury. This has become the more necessary, from their having discovered, that, in their efforts for the restoration of the public confidence, their motions have been misconstrued and perverted, and their proposals and plans received with a degree of prejudice and distrust, which they will be bold enough to say, their personal and private characters were sufficient to invalidate and disprove. Be this as it may, they are aware that the sincerity of their intentions can be known but by few, and may be doubted of by many; and, therefore, they here reiterate their decided opinion, that the present mode of election of the Town Council, and management of the town's affairs, are radically defective and improvident, tending to give to any individual or party, who may be so inclined, an excessive and unnatural preponderance, and to foster and encourage a system of secrecy and concealment, under which the most upright and best intentioned Magistrates may not be able to acquire that thorough knowledge of the situation of the burgh which is requisite for the due administration of its affairs. The subscribers are therefore of opinion, that some change ought to be effected in the manner of electing the Council, and an effectual control given to the citizens over the expenditure of the town's office-bearers. The extent of this change it is not for them to determine; they would only at this time urge the necessity of it. In the history of every well regulated government, they recognise the happy effects of those salutary checks, which can alone restrain public officers in the execution of their duties, whether holding political or local jurisdictions; and to the absence of such checks in the constitution of this burgh, do the subscribing members of the Town Council ascribe the heavy calamity which has befallen it. To the system solely is it owing; for, with regard to the individuals who have preceded them in the administration of that system,

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they must aver, that they believe their hands to be clean, as their motives have been pure and disinterested. With these sentiments the subscribers have been long impressed, and the experience of the last few months has too fatally confirmed their truth and justice. The time approaches when they are to retire from this board, and they therefore feel that they have but one other duty to perform—and that is, earnestly to recommend to their successors in office to direct their earliest attention to a renovation of the system of government of this burgh, in all its various bearings, satisfied, that if such a salutary and satisfactory change shall be effected therein, as is indispensable to the restoration of public confidence, there will not be wanting, among the enlightened and public-spirited inhabitants of this city, a disposition to go hand in hand with its municipal rulers, (whoever they may be,) in carrying *bon accord** through all its difficulties.

"(Signed) Alexander Fraser, Alexander Duncan, Alexander Brown, James Milne, Charles Hacket, William Reid, Gavin Hadden, James Hadden, C. P. Taylor, A. Simpson, G. Thomson, A. Gillan, D. Chalmers, J. Cunaley, R. Walker, H. Gordon."

Curious Adventure.—The proprietors of the Majestic steam-boat, of Margate, received on board about 200 of their friends and customers gratis, on Friday the 26th, and took them off Calais: they, however, made so near the harbour, as to subject the vessel to the port-duties, (L. 24,) and the passengers, being detained, were compelled to leave a gentleman as hostage for payment of that sum. They brought away two Frenchmen, whom they took as counter-hostages. The passengers, &c. expect to pay for their frolic about 15s. per head.

Agricultural Expedition.—Mr Taylor of Wroxill, about one mile from Godshill, Isle of Wight, took the earliest opportunity of getting in his wheat, when quite ripe and dry, one day last week. He had it cut in the morning, brought home in the afternoon, the machine at the barn-door to thrash it, and the thatcher, with his ladder, to thatch his new barn, which was all completed in one day; growing in the fields in the morning, and the barn thatched with the same in the evening.

Coasting.—Vessels intended for the conveyance of passengers and light goods betwixt Aberdeen and Leith are now launched at Aberdeen, and ready for sea. As they are intended to sail twice a week, the communication by sea betwixt these ports will be rendered very regular and frequent.

Small-Pox.—An extraordinary circumstance took place on Wednesday the 24th, at Hommerton, near Peterborough, in Northamptonshire. Mrs Oldham, an old lady of 105 years of age, and the mother of a very large family, expired, after a most violent attack of the small-pox. She had been often, in the course of her long life, exposed to the disease, without receiving the infection.

OCTOBER.

1.—*Liverpool.*—It appears, by a notice in the Gazette, that Liverpool is to be lighted with gas, as soon as an act of Parliament can be obtained for that purpose.

Montrose.—His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council, has issued a warrant for a poll election of Magistrates and Council for the burgh of Montrose, which was to take place on the 13th of this month. The Council, as before, is to consist of nineteen members—fifteen for the Guildry, and four for the Trades. In the first year, the whole nineteen are to be elected by a poll of these two orders of Burgesses; and then the nineteen, so elected, are to choose a Provost, three Bailies, a Treasurer, and a Master of the Hospital. In subsequent years, the Burgesses are to elect but ten Councillors,—six for the Guildry, and four for the Trades; an equal number retiring annually, though they may be re-elected if their constituents shall think proper.

Lunatics.—It appears by returns from the Scottish Presbyteries, that there are in Scotland 3486 Lunatics, including the Northern Isles and Zetland, but exclusive of 259 parishes from which no returns have been received. Of the former number 2840 are at large; 649 are confined; 622 are furious, and 2688 are fatuous; 965 are wholly maintained by relations; 781 partly, 523 wholly, by parishes.

Incorrigible Offender.—John Young, who was dismissed from the bar of the Justiciary Court, Glasgow, last week, the crimes of theft and housebreaking, of which he was accused, having been found "*Not Proven*," was next forenoon apprehended in the act of carrying away a bundle of yarn from a porter's barrow on the street. Having been locked up in one of the cells of the police office, the wretched man attempted to strangle himself, and had nearly effected his purpose, when the involuntary noise which he made brought the keepers into the place.

3.—The cast-iron bridge over the Irwell, from Salford to Strangeways, is so nearly complete, that the painters are employed upon it. It is of one arch only, of 120 feet span.

At a special assembly of the Corporation of Norwich, on Saturday the 20th ult. a piece of plate, value twenty-five guineas, was voted to Dr Rigby and his lady, as a memento of the birth of their four children;

* The town's motto.

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(see p. 192, last number;) the event is to be recorded in the city books, and inscribed with the names of the children on the plate.

4.—*October Meeting.*—The annual meeting for the counties of Aberdeen, Forfar, Kincardine, and Banff, commenced at Aberdeen, on Tuesday the 30th ult. and was attended by a very numerous and highly respectable assemblage of the nobility and gentry. The crowded ordinaries and balls at Anderson's and Dempster's alternately were distinguished by a brilliant display of beauty and fashion.

Melancholy Shipwreck.—The ship Lautaro, which sailed from Greenock on the 24th August, bound to Charleston, South Carolina, sprung a leak and foundered at sea on the 10th September. She had on board 47 souls, of which 27 (25 passengers and two sailors) were lost. The remaining part of the crew, captain, and passengers, took to the boats, two in number. The jolly boat bilged, and the crew were all obliged to make for the long boat. In this unfortunate situation they were picked up by the ship Jesse from Dumfries to St John's, and had she not arrived at that moment, they must have all perished.

6.—*Novel kind of Suicide.*—Last week, in a gentleman's park in the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, a sheep was found greatly mangled, supposed by a dog. The following day another sheep was discovered severely lacerated, and on the third morning it was found that the ears were torn off from a third victim. Next night, a watch being set, the depredator was detected. This was no other than a small Highland poney, which was caught in the act of laying hold with his teeth on a fourth member of the flock, and tossing it out of wantonness, after the manner of a greyhound with a defenceless *mauklin*.

The King's Health.—On Saturday the quarterly meeting of the Queen's Council was held at Windor Castle. The whole of the five physicians were in attendance; and the result of their report was the following, exhibited yesterday at St James's Palace:—"*Windsor Castle, October 4.*—His Majesty continues to enjoy a good state of bodily health, and has been very composed through the last month, but without any diminution of his disorder."

Fever in Ireland.—We regret to find, by a proclamation of the Irish Government, that the contagious disorder in Ireland has now reached such a height, as to render a committee necessary to receive applications from various districts, which require pecuniary aid in their exertions for the relief of the sick poor.—The town of Sligo has suffered more than any other part of Ireland from the disorder. It is stated that out of a population of 15,000, upwards of 1000 persons have fallen victims to it in that town alone. Dublin it appears is free from the infection.

8.—*Scottish Criminal Courts.*—The number of criminals tried at the different circuit towns in Scotland has this year been uncommonly great. Nine persons have received sentence of transportation for various periods at Glasgow, one at Ayr, four at Dumfries, one at Jedburgh, six at Perth, two at Aberdeen, and two at Inverness. A number have received sentence of imprisonment; several are to be banished Scotland; others are outlawed for not appearing; and some difficult cases have been remitted for trial to the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh. No less than 13 persons (two of whom are females) are at present under sentence of death in Scotland, viz.—three in Glasgow, four in Edinburgh, (three of whom are to be executed in Greenock), four in Ayr, and two in Perth.

Explosion of a Gunpowder Manufactory.—About twenty minutes before seven, in the morning of Friday the 3d instant, the corning-house of the gunpowder works, belonging to John Hall, Esq. at Ore, near Faversham, containing about 12 barrels of powder, blew up with a tremendous explosion, levelling instantly every part of the building to its foundation, and spreading the massy timbers in every direction. Three men employed therein were literally blown to pieces. The sound of the explosion was heard for nearly ten miles.

Inland Navigation.—A meeting was held on Friday at Carlisle, to take into consideration the propriety of cutting a canal between that city and the West Sea; the Right Honourable the Earl of Lonsdale was in the chair, and opened the business in a neat speech; Sir James Graham, Bart. of Edmund Castle, and Mr Curwen, spoke, and were very sensible of the great advantage the measure would be to Carlisle in particular. A resolution for a farther survey was passed. Every person who subscribed five guineas towards it to be entitled to take shares hereafter.

The preliminary subscription for the canal to connect the Eastern and Western Seas is already filled up in Northumberland. The gentlemen of that county intend to prosecute it as far as Hexham.

The whole sum for the completion of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Union Canal has now been subscribed. A large part of the tract has been surveyed to the westward of Edinburgh; and the work will begin as soon as the ground is cleared of the present crops.

Herring Fishing.—The herring fishery this year is exceedingly favourable. On the Isle of Man coast, and also on the west of Scotland, some boats have been known to take, at two or three draughts, what produced L. 50.

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9.—*Suicide.*—A poor woman, who had lately come to reside in a village near Spalding, and whose husband had absconded, was totally destitute of food for herself and three children. In this distress she went to a neighbour's house, and returned with a bucket full of grains, used in feeding swine. These she placed upon the floor of her cottage as food for her famishing babes, and rushing out of doors went and hanged herself.—*Glasgow paper.*

Paisley.—On Monday the 29th ult. at a meeting of the burgesses of Paisley, it was resolved, by a considerable majority, that their rights had been infringed by the recent charter, and that, as the inhabitants were lawfully entitled to choose their Magistrates, and to audit their accounts, measures should forthwith be adopted for regaining their authority.—A regular protest has since been taken by the committee in behalf of the burgesses and feuars of Paisley, against the election of their Magistrates and Council by the old Council, on the 6th instant, in the view of bringing the matter before the Supreme Court.

Perth.—On Saturday the 4th instant, at a general meeting of the Guildry Incorporation of Perth, a protest was taken against the legality of the late election of Magistrates and Town Council, to which a great majority of the meeting adhered, and appointed a committee to take the opinion of Counsel upon the subject.

Dundee.—After the long and severe conflicts which have torn and agitated this town, there is now a prospect of a speedy return of peace, order, and harmony. Provost Riddoch has expressed his readiness to concur with the burgesses of Dundee in applying to the King in Council for an alteration of the present set of the burgh, and his wish that the constitution, which has just been obtained for Montrose, should form the ground-work for that of Dundee.

11.—*Adventurers to South America.*—Ships continue to be equipped in the Thames for the purpose of conveying officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, to aid the patriots in South America. At present one vessel is quite ready to sail, having on board officers fully equipped, and 200 privates, to form a rifle corps.—Another is in a forward state of preparation, and has appointments for a cavalry regiment 600 strong; a third is freighted with the equipments of a lancer's corps. The officers are all men who have seen active service, and are of every rank, from Lieutenant-Colonels to Ensigns. The organization and arrangement are so complete, that they will be ready for immediate service on their arrival in America. This day notices were posted up in several coffeehouses in London, inviting passengers to go on board vessels waiting to sail direct for South America; thus the circuitous route by St Thomas's, formerly taken, is now dispensed with, and a great saving, both of time and expence, will be effected.

A circular letter has been issued from the War Office, stating that all officers holding any place of profit under other governments, unless with the express sanction of the Prince Regent, are in consequence precluded from receiving their half-pay, and this regulation is to take effect from the 25th December next. This circular letter seems to be issued for the purpose of deterring half-pay officers from enlisting under the banners of the South American insurgents.

Whales.—It is a remarkable circumstance, that three large whales have lately come ashore on the British coast. On the 20th September, a whale 36 feet in length was cast ashore in the Solway Frith. On the 21st August, one of 66 feet 5 inches came ashore between Stariga and Wick, which the fishermen killed after a labour of 25 hours. And on the 23d September, a whale, measuring 62 feet, was observed off Eyemouth, and towed into that harbour. It is probably the great increase of ice in the northern sea, which drives these monstrous animals to our shores. An immense shoal of the species of whales called finners was, on Monday the 6th instant, observed in the river Tay, and coming in contact with the east protection wall of the new harbour, Dundee, from twenty to thirty of them were pursued by people in boats, and killed. These animals were of different sizes, the largest not being less than 22 feet long. The blubber upon all of them is very valuable, and was from one to two inches in thickness.

Gratitude.—A female, who was some years ago a patient in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, but is now in better circumstances, has paid the sum of L. 20 to the Treasurer of that institution, as a mark of gratitude for the kind treatment she received while in that useful charity.

Adders.—On Tuesday, the 30th ultimo, while a servant belonging to the Reverend Mr Briscoe, of Great Orton, in Cumberland, was shooting, he was alarmed by the cries of one of his dogs, and on going to its assistance, he found two large adders coiled round its head, which he immediately killed, but so deadly was their venom, that the poor animal died before the servant reached home.

13.—*The Queen.*—Her Majesty has been advised, by her physicians, to drink the waters at Bath, and will, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth, visit that place early in the ensuing month. The Queen has no acute disorder; the waters being merely recommended for their general utility as tonics.

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16.—*Revenue.*—The public revenue may be regarded as a political barometer, marking with tolerable accuracy the true condition of the country. When it falls off, that of individuals, we may be assured, falls off in a greater proportion, and the opposite and more pleasing inference may be drawn from its increase. In this view, therefore, the following statement, just published, though the excess is trifling as an addition to the resources of the country, may be considered as an evidence of growing private prosperity, and a pledge also of a still greater increase of the public revenue.

Comparative statement of the Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain for the corresponding quarters, ending on the 10th October in 1816 *and* 1817.

	1816.	1817.
CUSTOMS.		
Consolidated	L.1,499,268	L.1,880,180
Annual duties	858,540	1,241,770
War duties	31	.....
Total Customs	2,457,859	3,121,950
EXCISE.		
Consolidated	4,937,055	4,025,209
Annual duties	98,641	124,664
War taxes	1,259,533	739,493
Total Excise	6,295,229	4,889,366
Stamps	1,487,447	1,686,663
Post office	355,000	354,000
Assessed taxes	714,270	782,602
Property tax	2,960,576	407,072
Land taxes	180,067	190,502
Miscellaneous	41,848	76,799
Unappropriated war duties	.....	12,124
	14,502,296	11,523,548

	Oct. 10, 1816.	Oct. 10, 1817.
Amount of revenue	L.14,502,296	L.11,523,548
Deduct amount of war duty on malt L.517,000		
Do. Prop. tax 2,960,576	3,477,576	
	11,024,710	
Deduct arrears of property tax and malt duty		419,072
		11,104,476
Net revenue received in the qr. ending Oct 10, 1817		11,104,476
Ditto 1816		11,024,710
Increase as compared with 1816		79,766

EDINBURGH POLICE FUNDS AND EXPENDITURE,

For the year ending at Whitsunday 1817.

FUNDS.

I. ASSESSMENT on L.318,938, rental at 1s. 3d. per pound, L.19,620 10 0

From this sum may be deducted abatements on account of overcharges, poverty, and irrecoverable assessments, which may altogether be taken at 7 per cent. on the gross sum, - - - 1,373 8 9

Sum which it is supposed the assessment will produce, ——— 18,247 1 3

II. DUNG CONTRACT.—This contract was vacated by mutual agreement between the commissioners and the contractors at Candlemas last, and since that period the commissioners have kept the dung under their own charge, principally on account of the nuisances complained of, from the depots being so immediately in the vicinity of populous districts, and with the view also, by this means, of having the whole quarters of police cleared by an early hour in the morning. The submission relative to the claims of deduction on the part of the contractors is still in dependence, but there is every reason to expect that the learned arbiter will give his final decree in the course of a few weeks.

ABSTRACT.

Salaries, -	L.1036	12	0	Tradesmen's accounts, -	138	18	3
Watching department,	7164	5	6	Sheriff's orders, - -	145	18	6
Cleaning ditto, -	2776	2	2	Miscellaneous payments, -	1561	2	4
Lighting ditto, -	3359	3	7	Balance of fine account, -	790	0	8
Oil, &c. for lanterns, -	309	1	1	City Guard, - -	500	0	0
Coal and candles, -	137	2	6	Compensation to Mr Tait, -	300	0	0
Printing, stationary, &c. -	201	6	3				
Rents, - -	62	12	0		L.18,482	4	10

By order of the General Commissioners,

Police-Office, Edinburgh, 5th July 1817. JOHN MURRAY, *Clerk.*

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Receipt and Expenditure of Edinburgh CHARITY WORK-HOUSE, *from 1st July 1816 to 1st July 1817. By George Spankie, Treasurer.*

RECEIPT.

Church Collections,		L. 1892	7	5¼
Boarders in House,		71	4	0
Do. in Bedlam, -		461	7	0
Paul's Work Mortification,		178	6	7
Grayfriars Church-yard dues,		21	6	3
Casual Revenue, -		49	15	9¼
City of Edinburgh, -		200	0	0
5 per cent. Poor's money.	1814-15 balance,	1165	4	4½
	1815-16, in part,	2880	0	0
	1816-17, ditto,	1000	0	0
Mr Shaw's Mortification,		10	0	0
Mr Hallowell's ditto, -		15	0	0
House in Henderson's Stairs,		4	12	6
Do. in Forrester's Wynd,		7	2	3
		L. 7876	6	2
Royal Bank, L. 600 0 0				
Bank of Scotland, 800 0 0		1400	0	0
Balance due by the House this year, -		661	4	7½
		L. 9937	10	9½

EXPENDITURE.

Maintenance, -		L. 2578	19	11
Cloathing, Bedding, and Furniture,		969	12	0½
Washing, Lighting, and Coals, -		555	17	2½
Petty Household charges,		260	14	7½
Do. Interest of money,		139	12	5
*Household Fees and Salaries,		587	5	0
Buildings, Repairs, and Funerals, -		415	14	4½
Mr Neilson, Kirk Treasurer,		75	0	0
Pensions to Families, &c.		1770	6	0
House Children at Nurse,		264	13	0
Temporary Supplies,		118	3	0
		L. 7735	17	7
British Linen Company, L. 300 0 0				
Commercial Bank, 500 0 0				
Bank of Scotland, 700 0 0		1500	0	0
Balance last year, -		701	13	½
		L. 9937	10	9½

* Besides some minor Salaries, there are included in this sum, that paid to the Treasurer, L. 200; Surgeon, L. 50; House Governor, L. 70; Chaplain, L. 63; Teacher, L. 20; Mistress of the House, L. 28; Do. of Children's Hospital, L. 28; and Keeper of Bedlam, L. 40.

This year 884 have resided in the House; 83 children have been paid for at Nurse; and 914 Families and Individuals have been regularly supplied; being in all 1881, whereof 99 have died in the House.

The numbers stood, in July 1805, at 500, and have since been yearly increasing; last year (1816) they were 1775.

Average expence of those *maintained*, Seven Pounds Fifteen Shillings each Individual *per annum*, covering every Charge upon the Establishment.

The Debt of the House at this date is L. 3400.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Cap. XX. *For making further Regulations in respect to the Pay of the Officers of the Royal Navy, in certain cases therein mentioned.*—March 31.

Cap. XXI. *To revive and continue for two Years, and from thence until the end of the then next Session of Parliament, two Acts made in the 47th and 50th Years of his present Majesty, for the preventing improper persons from having Arms in Ireland.*—April 29.

Cap. XXII. *To amend two Acts of the 54th and 55th Years of his Majesty's Reign, to provide for the better Execution of the Laws in Ireland, by appointing Superintending Magistrates and additional Constables in Counties in certain Cases.*—April 29.

Cap. XXIII. *To further continue, until the 25th day of March 1820, an Act of the 7th year of King George the Second, for the free Importation of Cochineal and Indigo.*—April 29.

Cap. XXIV. *To alter and enlarge the Powers of an Act passed in the 54th year of his present Majesty, intituled, "An Act for the further Improvement of the Land Revenue of the Crown."*—May 23.

Cap. XXV. *To explain and amend an Act made in the 48th year of his present Majesty, for repealing the Duties of Assessed Taxes, and granting new Duties in*

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lieu thereof; and to exempt such Dwelling-houses as may be employed for the sole purpose of Trade, or of lodging Goods, Wares, or Merchandize, from the Duties charged by the said Act.—May 23.

Tenements which have been occupied as dwelling-houses, shall not be charged to duties under recited Act, when employed solely for the purposes of trade, or as warehouses.

Mills, or places of manufacture, &c. not attached to a dwelling-house, not liable to duty, though a servant licensed to guard the same abide therein.

Exemption for one glazed window in a dairy in a farm-house.

Cap. XXVI. *To amend and render more effectual four several Acts passed in the 48th, 49th, 52d, and 56th years of his present Majesty, for enabling the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to grant Life Annuities.*—May 23.

Cap. XXVII. *For repealing the Duties of Customs on Buck Wheat imported into this Kingdom, and for granting other Duties, until the 25th day of March 1821, in lieu thereof.*—May 23.

Duties on buck wheat repealed, and, instead thereof, a duty of 10s. per quarter shall be paid.

Cap. XXVIII.. *To extend the Powers of two Acts for allowing British Plantation Sugar and Coffee, and other Articles imported into Bermuda in British Ships, to be exported to America in Foreign Vessels; and to permit Articles, the Produce of America, to be imported into the said Island in Foreign Ships, to certain other Articles.*—May 23.

Cap. XXIX. *To extend to Newfoundland the Provisions of an Act passed in the 52d year of his present Majesty's Reign, for permitting the exportation of Wares, Goods, and Merchandize, from any of his Majesty's Islands in the West Indies to any other of the said Islands, and to and from any of the British Colonies on the Continent of America, and the said Islands and Colonies.*—May 23.

European goods, &c. may be exported from Newfoundland to the West Indies, &c. and from the West Indies, &c. to Newfoundland.

Cap. XXX. *To regulate the Interests and Periods of Payment of Navy, Victualling, and Transport Bills.*—May 23.

Treasury may regulate the interest and period of payment of navy bills, &c.; but not to exceed 3½d. per cent. a-day.

Cap. XXXI. *For granting to his Majesty a Sum of Money to be raised by Lotteries.*—May 23.

Cap. XXXII. *To repeal the Duties of Excise on Stone Bottles, and charge other Duties in lieu thereof.*—June 16.

Cap. XXXIII. *To reduce the Allowances of Spirits, Tea, and Tobacco, for the Use of the Seamen on board certain Ships or Vessels making short Voyages.*—June 16.

Cap. XXXIV. *To authorize the Issue of Exchequer Bills, and the Advance of Money out of the Consolidated Fund, to a limited Amount, for the carrying on of Public Works and Fisheries in the United Kingdom, and employment of the Poor in Great Britain, in manner therein mentioned.*—June 16.

Commissioners of Treasury to issue Exchequer Bills not exceeding L.1,500,000.

Bills to bear an interest of twopence halfpenny per cent. per diem.

All such bills as shall be advanced for the carrying on of any public works, shall be made payable within three years from the issuing thereof; and all such bills as shall be advanced for the assistance of any parishes in Great Britain, shall be made payable within two years after Easter 1818.

Such bills not to be received in payment of any tax before the day appointed for their payments, &c.

Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland may order the advance of L. 250,000 out of the produce of the consolidated fund there, for the purposes of this Act, &c.

Commissioners to meet to receive or appoint a person to receive applications in writing for the loan of Exchequer Bills, and to ascertain the amount immediately wanted.

Commissioners to cause applications to be classed, and to establish regulations for apportioning the sums to be advanced.

Treasury to direct the Exchequer to issue bills in Great Britain, agreeably to certificates of the commissioners, &c.

Money may be advanced for public works in Great Britain, in certain cases, on mortgage of rates without personal security.

Money may be advanced for building or repairing churches.

Trustees of roads, to whom advances are made under this Act, may increase tolls for repayment.

Commissioners for drainage, for which advances shall be made, may increase rates for repayment.

Advance not to be made to parishes, unless application made with consent of majority in number, and three-fourths in value, of persons paying poor-rates, or where there is a select vestry, &c. then with consent of four-fifths of that body; and such applications from parishes to have the sanction of two justices.

Advance to any parish not to exceed the amount of last half year's poor-rate; overseers to pay instalment out of poor-rates, and make rates, if necessary, for the purpose.

Advance to parishes to be repaid within two years from Easter 1818.

Principal sums of Exchequer Bills, with interest, to be repaid by instalments. &c.

The Bank may advance money on the credit of this Act.

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PATENTS LATELY ENROLLED.

WILLIAM HENRY OSBORN, of Bordesley, near Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, for a method or principle of producing cylinders of various descriptions. March 1, 1817.

DANIEL WILSON, of Dublin, gentleman, for gas-light apparatuses, processes, and philosophical instruments. March 1.

URBANUS SARTORIS, of Winchester Street, London, merchant, for improvements in the construction and use of fire-arms. March 11.

WILLIAM RAYBOULD, of Goswell Street, Middlesex, brass-founder, for an improvement applicable to fire-stoves, grates, and ranges, of different descriptions. March 11.

LUDVIG GRANHOLM, of Foster-Lane, London, captain in the royal navy of Sweden, for a process, mean or means, for pressing vegetable and animal products. March 11.

WILLIAM PANTER, of Hampton-hill, Bath, Somersetshire, gentleman, for an improvement calculated to facilitate rotatory motion, and lessen or remove friction in wheel-carriages, and machinery of different descriptions. March 16.

JOHN WINTER the younger, of Bristol, comb-maker, for a method of joining and combining horn and tortoise-shell together, by means of heat and pressure, thereby causing the same to adhere the one to the other, in such manner as to have the appearance of solid tortoise-shell, and with all the strength and elasticity of horn, by which he will be enabled to manufacture and vend the several articles of hair-combs, and ornamental and other combs, and snuff-boxes, made of those materials, at a cheap rate, and resembling and having the appearance and beauty of real tortoise-shell. March 18.

DANIEL WHEELER, of Hyde Street, St George, Bloomsbury, Middlesex, colour maker, for a method of drying and preparing malt. March 28.

EDWARD NICHOLAS, of Llangattock Vibon Avell, Monmouthshire, farmer, for a plough, for the purpose of covering with mould wheat and other grain when sown. April 19.

ANTONIO JOAQUIN FRIERE MARROCE, of Broad-street-buildings, London, merchant; for a method of making or manufacturing an improved machine or instrument for calculating and ascertaining the longitude at sea. Communicated to him by Luis Coctane Altina de Campos, residing abroad. April 29.

WILLIAM COLLINS, of Maize Hill, Greenwich, Kent, Esq. for an improvement or improvements in the composition and preparation of a metal for the manufacturing thereof into sheets or plates, and the application, when so prepared and manufactured, to the preservation of ships, by sheathing or covering the bottoms therewith and an improvement or improvements of the chain-pumps used on board ships. May 6.

HENRY WILMS, of Union Street, Lambeth, Surrey, cabinet-maker; for an artificial leg, arm, and hand, on an improved construction. May 8.

JAMES GERARD COLBERT, of Winsley Street, in the parish of St Mary-le-Bone, Middlesex, mechanical watch-maker; for certain improvements in the method or methods of making screws of iron, brass, steel, or other metals, for the use of all kinds of wood-work. Communicated to him by a foreigner residing abroad. May 13.

RICHARD WILLIAMS the elder, of Fursley, Gloucestershire, card-maker; for certain improvements in the manufacturing of cards for dressing woollen cloths. May 15.

JOHN WALKER, 12, Great Charles Street, Blackfriars Road, Christ Church, Surrey, millwright; for an improved method of separating or extracting the molasses or treacle from and out of Muscovado, brown, or new sugar. May 13.

ARCHIBALD THOMSON, of Church Street, Christ Church, Surrey, machinist and engineer; for a machine for cutting corks. May 17.

ROBERT SALMON, of Woburn, Bedfordshire, gentleman; for an apparatus for the more useful, safe, pleasant, and economic, use of candles; and also improvements in the apparatus now in use for part of the same ends. May 17.

WILLIAM BOUNE, of Ray Street, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, iron-founder, and WILLIAM STONE, of Berkley Street, in the same parish and county, brass-founder; for a method of applying certain apparatus for converting the fuel, and for heating retorts, of gas-lights apparatus, into coke or charcoal. May 17.

BENJAMIN COOK, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, gilt toy-maker; for an improved method of making and constructing rollers and cylinders, both solid and hollow, which will be found useful in various manufactories in this kingdom. May 17.

WILLIAM OWEN, of Wrexham, Denbighshire, cabinet-maker; for a portable table or box mangle, upon a new or improved principle, for getting up and smoothing of linen, cotton, and other articles and things. May 17.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Sept. 17.—The Right Hon. Charles Chetwynd, Earl Talbot, to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

23.—Lord William Gordon to be Receiver-General of the duchy of Cornwall.

Oct. 4.—James Chalmers to be Solicitor for the Board of Excise in the Admiralty and Sheriff-Courts, Edinburghshire.

Member Returned to serve in Parliament.

Sept. 16.—Sir Christopher Cole, Bart. for Glamorganshire, in room of B. Hall. Esq. deceased.

Magistrates of Edinburgh.

The Right Hon. Kincaid Mackenzie, Lord Provost. George White, Neil Ryrie, John Anderson, and Robert Anderson, Esqrs. Bailies. Alexander Henderson, Esq. Lord Dean of Guild. John Manderston, Esq. Treasurer.

Chief Magistrates of Scottish Burghs, &c.

Anstruther Easter—David Rodger, jun.
Anstruther Wester—Andrew Meldrum
Auchtermuchty—David Scott
Ayr—Hugh Cowan
Burntisland—Sir P. C. Durham, K. C. B.
Culross—James Gibson of Ingliston
Cupar Fife—John Cheape of Rossie
Crail—Robert Murray
Dundee—Alexander Riddoch
Dunbar—William Hume
Dunfermline—Major David Wilson
Dumfries—John Barker
Dumbarton—John Dixon of Leven Grove
Falkland—Francis Deas
Fortrose—James Fowler of Grange
Glasgow—The Hon. James Black
Gatehouse of Fleet—George Brown
Greenock—Quintin Leitch

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Hamilton—William Hamilton
Helensburgh—Jacob Dixon of Rockbank
Inverness—James Robertson
Javerary—Colin Campbell
Inverkeithing—Robert Walker of Sunnybank
Jedburgh—John Jackson
Kirkaldy—John Ford
Kilmarnock—John Thomson
Kirkcudbright—Robert Gordon of Larglanglee
Kinghorn—John Sibbald of Abden
Kilrenny—James Reekie
Lanark—Robert Hutchison
Lauder—Alexander Dawson
Linlithgow—Adam Dawson
Lochmaben—Robert Richardson
Montrose—Charles Barclay
Maxwelltown—Philip Forsyth
Musselburgh—William Scott
Old Aberdeen—Professor Paul
Paisley—William Carlile
Perth—Lawrence Robertson
Port-Glasgow and Newark—James Barclay
Peebles—James Ker
Pollockshaws—John Monteith
Pittenweem—John Tod
Queensferry—Earl of Roseberry
Renfrew—Robert King
Rutherglen—John Gray of Scotstown
Stirling—Thomas Wright
Selkirk—William Lamb
St Andrews—Robert Meldrum of Bonningtown
Stranraer—Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton
Tain—William Murray

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

Sept. 9.—The Rev. John Macdonald to the pastoral charge of the Associate Congregation of Thurso.

17.—Rev. Samuel Eccles, to the Presbyterian Congregation of Armagh, Ireland.

—Rev. Andrew Elliot to the Associate Congregation of Ford.

18.—Rev. William Keay to the Rectory of Nunnington, Yorkshire.

19.—Rev. Alexander Welsh to the church and parish of Heriot, presbytery of Dalkeith.

22.—Rev. Charles King, of West Hall, to the Rectory of Witchampton, Dorsetshire.

—Rev. C. Hodgson to the Rectory of St Tudy, Cornwall.

26.—Rev. C. Golding to the Rectory of Stratford, St Mary, Suffolk.

29.—Rev. Archibald Bruce to the third charge of the church and parish of Stirling.

Oct. 9.—Rev. Richard John Geldart, M. A. to the Rectory of Billing Parva, Northamptonshire.

11.—Rev. Thos. Lee, D.D. President of Trinity College Oxford, to be Vice-Chancellor of that University.

—Rev. W. Harrison to the Rectory of Winchester.

—Rev. Thos. Hulse to the Rectory of North Ockendon, Essex.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

The weather during the last half of September and the first half of October has been unusually steady. The temperature, indeed, has been greatly reduced, but the dryness has increased. The mean temperature of the last fourteen days of September was 52¼, and of the first sixteen days of October 42¾, being a difference of 9½ degrees, but the quantity of moisture in a cubic inch of air during the first period was 0.002 grains, and during the second only 0.0014. The quantity of rain that fell during the former was 0.325, and during the latter 0.101. The barometer since the commencement of October has stood almost uniformly above 30. There is at present a fair prospect of our former remark being verified, that the dryness of the weather towards the close of the year will counterbalance the wetness of the preceding part of the season, so that the quantity of rain upon the whole may not far exceed the usual annual average.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

From 17th September to 16th October 1817, inclusive.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	53.600
. . . . . cold,	41.285
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	49.050
. . . . . 10 P. M.	44.800
. . . of daily extremes,	47.416
. . . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	46.925
. . . 4 daily observations,	47.170

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 53)	29.912
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 52)	27.912
. . . both (temp. of mer. 52½)	29.906

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	19.733
. . . 10 P. M.	9.900
. . . of both,	14.816
Rain in Inches,	0.426
Evaporation in ditto,	1.550
Fair days 21; rainy days 9,	30
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	14
. . . from E. of meridian, including S.	16

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Greatest heat, Sept. 17th,	66.500
Greatest cold, Oct. 3d,	29.000
Highest 10 A. M. Sept. 19th,	63.000
Lowest ditto, Oct. 4th,	39.000
Highest 10 P. M. Sept. 19th,	56.000
Lowest ditto, Oct. 4th,	34.500

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. Oct. 5th,	30.550
Lowest ditto, Sept. 25th,	28.680
Highest 10 P. M. Oct. 5th,	30.245
Lowest ditto, Sept. 25th,	28.890

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. Sept. 29th,	35.000
Lowest ditto, Oct. 5th,	8.000
Highest 10 P. M. Oct. 1st,	18.000
Lowest ditto, Sept. 23d,	3.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, Sept. 24th,	0.087
Least ditto, Sept. 17th,	0.004
Greatest mean daily evap. 26th to 30th Sept.	0.085
Least ditto, 6th to 10th Oct.	0.040

General character of the period: dry and cold, with a good deal of sunshine.

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METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Calton-hill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day, at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

		Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Sept.	16	M. 60	29.807	M. 60	S.	Very warm.
		E. 62	.879	E. 64		
	17	M. 62	.879	M. 64	Chle.	Ditto.
		E. 57	.879	E. 63		
	18	M. 52	.865	M. 59	E.	Aftern. clear and warm.
		E. 53	.695	E. 58		
	19	M. 53	.663	M. 56	Chle.	Rain morn. clear aftern.
		E. 57	.714	E. 59		
	20	M. 55	.816	M. 57	Chle.	Fair foren. rain aftern.
		E. 52	.855	E. 56		
	21	M. 54	.830	M. 56	Chle.	A fine day.
		E. 55	.830	E. 56		
	22	M. 51	.773	M. 55	N. E.	Mo. frosty & fair, rain aft.
		E. 52	.781	E. 55		
	23	M. 50	.765	M. 54	N. E.	Close and warm.
		E. 50	.787	E. 55		
	24	M. 52	.710	M. 57	Chle.	Clear foren. dull aftern.
		E. 54	.466	E. 57		
	25	M. 55	.129	M. 56	S. W.	Dull with some shwrs.
		E. 54	28.799	E. 56		
	26	M. 53	.468	M. 56	S. W.	Clear, rather cold.
		E. 52	.468	E. 55		
	27	M. 49	.619	M. 54	N. W.	Clear day, wind hi. aft.
		E. 46	.781	E. 51		
	28	M. 49	29.181	M. 55	N. W.	Clear, rather cold.
		E. 44	.461	E. 50		
	29	M. 44	.564	M. 50	N. W.	Clear day, dull even.
		E. 42	.813	E. 48		
	30	M. 37	.813	M. 47	W.	Rainy, snow on the hills.
		E. 40	.736	E. 44		
Oct.	1	M. 42	29.446	M. 45	Chle.	Cold, rain, snow & hail.
		E. 36	.669	E. 45		
	2	M. 35	.725	M. 41	N. W.	Clear.
		E. 40	.776	E. 45		
	3	M. 41	.860	M. 45	E.	Dull morn. clear day.
		E. 39	.918	E. 42		
	4	M. 37	30.131	M. 42	E.	Frost. morn. clear day.
		E. 37	.138	E. 43		
	5	M. 39	.188	M. 45	E.	Frosty, clear.
		E. 43	.160	E. 45		
	6	M. 45	.160	M. 47	S. E.	Mild, dull.
		E. 43	.155	E. 47		
	7	M. 45	.105	M. 46	E.	Clear.
		E. 42	.105	E. 48		
	8	M. 40	29.982	M. 44	S. E.	Ditto.
		E. 40	.954	E. 45		
	9	M. 43	.914	M. 44	S. E.	Ditto.
		E. 45	.845	E. 48		
	10	M 45	.799	M. 47	N. E.	Dull, heavy showers.
		E. 39	.862	E. 44		
	11	M. 40	.920	M. 42	N. E.	Dull.
		E. 41	.965	E. 43		
	12	M. 41	.985	M. 42	N.	Clear, rather cold.
		E. 43	.993	E. 46		
	13	M. 42	30.120	M. 45	W.	Rather dull.
		E. 42	.105	E. 45		
	14	M. 43	.102	M. 45	W.	Mild.
		E. 45	29.980	E. 47		
	15	M. 43	.953	M. 46	N. E.	Mild, rain evening.
		E. 44	.925	E. 46		

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

A CONTINUANCE of fine weather has enabled the farmers of all the earlier soils throughout Britain to complete their harvest, with few exceptions; and to secure their crops in the very best order. Wheat yields well to measure, and the quality approaches to that of average years, though, in many instances, there is more than the usual proportion of inferior grain. Some spring sown wheats are still abroad in the Lothians, and much of this crop is not expected to be productive.—Barley appears to be a tolerably fair crop, but the quality is not very fine.—In oats there is certainly a deficiency, at least in Scotland; large fields are still partially green in the northern counties, and, in many instances, the frosts in the early part of the present month have given them that peculiar tint between a healthy green and the yellow colour of ripeness, which denotes that their progress to maturity has been arrested. Even in the earlier districts we have seen, within these few days, a number of fields of oats, both reaped and growing, in which there is unripe grain in the proportion of a third or fourth of the whole. Beans and Peas are in general unproductive, and the former, in particular, have suffered greatly from the same frosts; the thermometer having been once so low as five degrees under the freezing point.—Prices of grain, both in this country, and on the continent, advanced a little during the three weeks preceding the present—in which they have declined again; certainly not in consequence of severe edicts against monopolists, published by some Royal economists on the other side of the water, which can have no other effect than to diminish the supply of the markets, and hold up the corn-merchant to the unmerited odium of the people.—Cattle and Sheep have improved in value at the late great *tryst* at Falkirk, in this neighbourhood, there having been a considerable demand from the South. Butcher's meat remains much the same as it has been throughout the summer; beef and mutton in Edinburgh market selling at from 4½d. to 6d. per lb. of 17½ oz. avoirdupois.—*October* 18.

N. B.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—The Linlithgow boll, which is to be understood in the following tables, when no particular measure is mentioned, is for wheat, beans, and peas, about two per cent. more than four bushels, or half an English quarter; and for barley and oats, something less than six Winchester bushels. But, though these are the standards of Scotland, the measure of every county varies a little from them; and even in the same county, two or more customary measures are found, different from the standard, and from one another. The Stirlingshire measure, in the Glasgow table, is more than 8 per cent. above the Linlithgow wheat boll. The boll of oatmeal is 8 Dutch stones, or 140 lb. avoirdupois, and the peck a sixteenth part, or 8¾ lb. avoirdupois; but the peck of potatoes, in Edinburgh, ought to weigh 28 lb. The weight by which butcher meat is sold, is commonly the Dutch pound of 17½ ounces,—the stone containing 16 of these pounds, and being thus equal to 1¼ stone avoirdupois. Hay is sold by the stone, weighing from 22 (which is the weight in Edinburgh) to 24 lbs.; and butter by the lb. of 22 ounces.

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CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817.	Wheat. Boll	Wheat. Prices	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Quar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck	1817.	Oatmeal. Boll	Oatmeal. Peck.	Bg. & Pmeal. Bolls.	Bg. & Pmeal. Peck.
		s. s.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.			s. d.		s. d.
Sept. 24	356	20 51	39 2	28 34	24 30	26 30 0	12	8	Sept. 23	409	1 9	65	1 3
Oct. 1	433	27 60	42 9	28 36	24 31	26 30 0	12	8	30	406	1 9	42	1 3
8	615	28 56	40 2	28 34	24 32	24 31 0	12	8	Oct. 7	497	1 10	36	1 3
15	412	20 52	40 2	24 32	22 28	24 30 0	12	8	14	506	1 10	45	1 3

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	Wheat. For. red.	Wheat. Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Oats. Scots.	Oats. Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Barley. Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stir.	Bns. & Pse. Mea.	Oatmeal 140 lbs.	Flour. 280 lbs.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Sept. 24	44 48	28 44	— —	24 30	23 36	30 34	32 36	30 34	28 33	28 32	70 75	
Oct. 1	44 48	28 44	— —	24 30	23 34	30 34	32 36	30 34	26 31	28 32	70 75	
8	44 48	32 44	— —	26 30	24 30	30 34	34 36	30 34	26 30	28 30	70 75	
15	44 48	38 44	— —	20 24	24 30	30 34	32 36	30 34	26 30	28 30	70 75	

Haddington.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Wheat. Prices.	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.
Sept. 26	642	28 45 0	36 5	23 31	21 31 0	23 29	23 29
Oct. 3	835	24 50 0	39 0	21 31	20 30 0	22 28	22 29
10	1030	20 48 0	35 10	24 31	21 31 0	23 29	23 29
17	649	20 49	38 0	22 30	20 29 6	24 30	24 30

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Oatmeal. Per Pek.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 29	24 0 26 0	1 8
Oct. 6	25 0 27 6	1 9
13	24 0 27 6	1 9

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pol	Oats. Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Beans. Tick.	Pease. Boiling.	Pease. Grey.	Flour, 280 lb. Fine.	Flour, 280 lb. 2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
Sept. 22	40 88	30 36	26 50	12 32	32 36	40 58	36 52	46 50	38 41	75 86	55 70	15
29	40 92	30 36	26 44	12 32	32 36	40 46	36 46	40 50	35 38	75 86	55 76	15
Oct. 6	46 98	30 36	24 46	12 32	32 36	42 48	36 42	45 56	36 40	75 80	55 70	14
13	45 94	30 36	24 46	12 32	32 36	44 50	38 45	50 63	36 40	75 80	55 70	14

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb	Flour. Irish.	Flour. Amer. 196 lb	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Scots.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Irish.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. t.
Sept. 16	6 6 12 0	3 0 4 6	4 0 5 6	44 50	43 60	55 70	54 58	00 00	35 46	36 40	34 36	32 36
23	6 0 11 6	2 0 4 0	4 0 5 6	40 45	40 58	50 68	50 56	00 00	34 46	32 36	30 34	28 32
30	6 6 12 8	2 3 4 0	4 0 5 6	40 45	40 58	50 68	55 60	00 00	40 54	32 36	30 34	28 32
Oct. 7	6 6 13 8	2 3 4 3	4 0 5 6	40 45	40 58	50 68	55 60	00 00	40 55	32 36	30 34	28 32

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatm. 140 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 13	81 1	48 10	45 4	32 8	47 9	44 10	40 10
20	76 2	45 11	42 10	30 10	46 4	43 9	39 5
27	74 1	43 6	42 2	28 11	47 0	42 11	37 9
Oct. 4	75 4	44 3	42 3	28 6	47 3	43 4	35 1

Maritime Districts.

Dts.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
Sep.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6	82 11	55 3	46 9	33 9	46 6	44 2
13	82 5	52 4	44 11	32 6	43 1	38 11
20	75 5	44 2	42 3	27 4	44 11	40 8
27	76 4	43 10	41 10	26 7	44 11	42 1

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th Sept.

Wheat, 68s. 8d.—Rye, 68s. 7d.—Barley, 44s. 2d.—Oats, 39s. 10d.—Beans, 56s. 6d.—Pease, 56s. 5d.—Oatmeal, 32s. 5d.—Bear or Big, 43s. 8d.

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COLONIAL PRODUCE.—*Sugars.*—The demand for Muscovadoes, after the date of our last Report, became limited, and prices have since declined 2s. to 3s. There has to-day been evinced by the buyers a greater disposition to do business, but the sales were trifling. The refined market has likewise been heavy, with a similar fall of prices. The refiners, however, are rather withdrawing their goods in expectation of a rising market. In foreign sugars, there have been scarcely any transactions, and the quotations are therefore nominal. *Coffee.*—The market has continued heavy; but there is a general confidence among holders, that prices will advance, and few sales have therefore been brought forward. The stock, in comparison with last year, is 2192 casks and 31,968 bags less; the prices were 20s. per cwt. higher. *Cotton.*—The cotton market has been exceedingly heavy; a considerable quantity of Bengals are held by speculators; and, had offers been made for a large quantity, a very considerable decline would probably have been submitted to last week. The stock of every other description of cotton is so limited, that holders would not at present submit to any depression to facilitate sales. The imports of cotton last month into London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, were 22,237 bags. *Rum.*—There have been several extensive purchases; on Saturday about 1200 puncheons Leewards were taken at from 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. The sales of Jamaica were more limited, and generally a shade lower. *Indigo.*—The sale at the India House, declared for the 14th instant, is trivial as to quantity; the quality generally good and fine descriptions. The premium on parcels of the last India sale is 15d. to 18d. per lb. *Spices.*—There are several inquiries after nutmegs. Pimento sold last week at 9½d. for good quality. Pepper a shade lower. *Cocoa* is in demand, and prices are rather improving. *Tobacco.*—There has been some inquiry after this article, but the demand is again subsiding; little variation in prices. The imports into London last month were—1591 hhds. Virginia; 590 hhds. Maryland. The prices, compared with last year, are 1d. to 2d. per lb. lower. *Oils.*—The lowest quotation of Greenland is L. 46, and speculators are expecting much higher prices. Southern oils continue to advance. Linseed is also a shade higher. In other descriptions no alteration.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—The prices, which had advanced a little, are again beginning to give way, the continuance of easterly winds being favourable for Baltic arrivals. Foreign tallow is a shade lower; but the town market was quoted last week at an advance of 1s. 6d. There were considerable inquiries after hemp yesterday, but no alteration in price. Flax is rather heavy. *Brandy and Geneva.*—In brandy there have been considerable transactions, at 8s. 9d.; but the prices may be since stated at 2d. per gallon higher. Geneva remains without alteration.

British Manufactures.—Respecting our manufactures, the accounts which continue to be received from all quarters are still very flattering. In Norwich, the manufacture of bombazeens is so considerably increased, that hands cannot be found to execute the orders. The Manchester manufacturers have raised their workmen's wages 6d. on the piece. The trade in Yorkshire is very brisk in woollens and common cloth, particularly the latter; all hands are now employed, and the cloth is principally for the Russian army.—*October* 7.

Course of Exchange, Oct. 10.—Amsterdam, 38 : 2 B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 8. Rotterdam, 11 : 15 : 2 U. Antwerp, 11 : 15 Ex. M. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Hamburgh, 32 : 2 : 2½ U. Altona, 35 : 3 : 2½ U. Paris, 3 days sight, 24 : 40 U. Bourdeaux, 24 : 60. Frankfort on the Maine, 146 Ex. M. Madrid, 37 effective. Cadiz, 36¾ effective. Gibraltar, 32. Leghorn, 48½. Naples, 42. Lisbon, 58. Rio Janeiro, 62. Dublin, 8. Cork, 8 ·

Price of Gold and Silver, per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, L. 4, 0s. 0d. Foreign gold, in bars, L. 4, 0s. 0d. Silver in bars, standard, L. 0, 5s. 3d.

Premiums of Insurance at Lloyd's.—Guernsey or Jersey, 15s. 9d. Cork, Dublin, or Belfast, 15s. 9d. to 20s. Hamburgh, 20s. to 30s. Madeira, 20s. to 25s. Jamaica, 40s.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds from September 20, to October 10, 1817.

	Sept. 20th.	27th.	Oct. 6th.	10th.
Bank stock,	—	—	—	—
3 per cent. reduced,	—	—	—	—
3 per cent. consols,	80⅞	80⅞ 81	82	82⅜
4 per cent. consols,	—	—	—	—
5 per cent. navy ann.	106½	106⅞	107⅛	108
Imperial 3 per cent. ann.	79⅝	80	80⅛	—
India stock,	233	239	240	243
—— bonds,	75 70pr.	74 77pr.	100 101pr.	115pr.
Exchequer bills, 2½d.	25 30pr.	23 27pr.	26 32pr.	28 34pr.
—— 3d.	25pr.	19 21pr.	22 23pr.	20pr.
—— 3¼d.	25pr.	19pr.	20 23pr.	19 20pr.
Consols for acc.	80⅛	81⅛	82⅛	82⅛
American 3 per cent.	65	—	—	—
—— new loan, 6 p. cent.	103⅛	—	—	—
French 5 per cents.	66fr. 45c.	65fr. 93c.	65fr. 90c.	65fr. 5c.

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PRICES CURRENT.—Oct. 11.

	Leith.	Glasgow.	Liverpool.	per
Sugar, *Musc.*				
B. P. Dry Brown, . . .	78 @ —	80 @ 84	75 @ 77	cwt.
Mid. good, and fine mid.	82 86	84 95	82 89	
Fine and very fine, . .	88 96	— —	90 93	
Refined, Double Loaves, ...	155 165	— —	— —	
Powder ditto, ...	126 130	— —	— —	
Single ditto, ...	122 124	125 126	124 128	
Small Lumps, ...	115 118	118 120	125 130	
Large ditto, ...	114 116	116 —	115 122	
Crushed Lumps, ...	70 72	69 71	72 —	
Molasses, British, ...	40 —	40 —	40 —	
Coffee, *Jamaica*,				
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 93	87 93	82 88	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	93 106	94 105	89 100	
Dutch, Triage and very ord. .	76 86	— —	76 86	
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 92	— —	84 91	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	92 104	— —	92 101	
St Domingo, ...	— —	90 93	85 91	
Pimento (in Bond), ...	8½ 9	9 9½	9½ 9½	lb.
Spirits, Jamaica Rum, 16 O. P.	3s 6d 3s 8d	3s 4 3s 6	3s 2 3s 4	gall.
Brandy, ...	7 6 7 9	— —	— —	
Geneva, ...	3 10 4 0	— —	— —	
Grain Whisky, ...	7 0 7 3	— —	— —	
Wines, Claret, 1st Growths, .	45 50	— —	— —	hhd.
Portugal Red, ...	38 45	— —	— —	pipe.
Spanish White, . . .	30 46	— —	— —	butt.
Teneriffe, ...	30 35	— —	— —	pipe.
Madeira, ...	60 70	— —	— —	
Logwood, Jamaica, ...	£8 £8 10	£8 0 £8 10	£8 5 £8 15	ton.
Honduras, ...	8 9	8 10 —	8 15 9 5	
Campeachy, ...	9 10	9 0 10 0	9 10 9 15	
Fustic, Jamaica, ...	12 13	12 10 13 0	12 0 13 10	
Cuba, ...	17 —	— —	17 0 17 10	
Indigo, Caraccas fine, ...	9s 6d 11s 6d	8s 6 9s 6	9s 0 11s 6	lb.
Timber, American Pine, . . .	2 3 2 5	— —	2 3 2 4	foot.
Ditto Oak, ...	4 7 5 2	— —	— —	
Christiansand (duties paid),	2 4 2 5	— —	— —	
Honduras Mahogany, .	0 11 1 1	0 10 1 8	1 0 1 4	
St Domingo ditto, . .	— —	1 2 3 0	1 9 2 3	
Tar, American, ...	— —	— —	17 0 —	brl.
Archangel, ...	19 20	— —	19 0 21 0	
Pitch, Foreign, ...	14 —	— —	— —	cwt.
Tallow, Russia Yellow Candle,	67 —	69 —	68 69	
Home melted, ...	68 —	— —	— —	
Hemp, Riga Rhine, ...	£43 44	£43 £44	— —	ton.
Petersburgh Clean, . .	42 —	41 42	43 —	
Flax, Riga Thies. and Druj. Rak.	68 —	— —	— —	
Dutch, ...	50 120	— —	— —	
Irish, ...	52 53	— —	— —	
Mats, Archangel, ...	£6 0 £6 6	— —	— —	100.
Bristles, Petersburgh Firsts,	16 10 £17	— —	— —	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl, . .	63s —	— —	— —	
Montreal ditto, . . .	64s 66s	60s 62s	62 —	
Pot, ...	46s 47s	45s 47s	46s 0 47s 0	
Oil, Whale, ...	46s 47s	47 48	47 48	tun.
Cod, ...	55 (p. brl.) —	— —	Uncertain.	
Tobacco, Virginia fine, . . .	10 10½	10½ 11	0 8 0 9	lb.
middling, .	9 9½	9½ 10	0 5½ 0 6	
inferior, .	8 8½	8 9	0 4½ 0 5	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia, . .	— —	1 8 1 10½	1 7½ 1 10½	
Sea Island, fine, . . .	— —	2 8 2 10	2 6½ 2 8	
good, . . .	— —	2 5 2 7	2 4 2 6	
middling, .	— —	2 3 2 5	1 11 2 3	
Demerara and Berbice, .	— —	2 0 2 3	1 10 2 2½	
West India, ...	— —	1 10 2 0	1 9 1 10	
Pernambuco, ...	— —	2 2 2 3	2 2½ 2 3	
Maranham, ...	— —	2 1 2 2	2 1 2 2	

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Alphabetical List of English Bankruptcies, announced between September 15 and October 10, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Arnold, G. Abergavenny, grocer
Barnes, W. Blackheath, bavin merchant
Barker, J. Stafford, potter
Bailey, W. Frieston Fen, Lincoln, farmer
Body, W. Meeching, grocer
Bonsail, R. Southwark, builder
Bernoulli, J. and E. London, merchants
Batt, S. Bath, victualler
Brychall, S. B. Canterbury, horse-dealer
Casson, J., and J. and R. Ashworth, Spotland, flannel-manufacturers
Chester, C. jun. Liverpool, auctioneer
Cooper, G. sen. Old Ford, Middlesex, dealer
Coffin, J. W. Plymouth Dock, merchant
Cowell, W. jun. Wigan, butcher
Cartwright, G. Birmingham, dealer
Cramp, J. Orford, miller
Commins, M. Falmouth, innkeeper
Dalrymple, H. London, cabinet-maker
Dickenson, J. Dewsbury, linen-draper
Delcambre, A. London, merchant
Eales, W. London, cheesemonger
Etchells, J. Stockport, joiner
Evans, E. Maesyrhiw, timber-merchant
Field, J. Walcot, professor of music
Furnival, S. Liverpool, grocer
Fletcher, E. jun. Liverpool, iron-founder
Ferneley, A. Manchester, grocer
Freeland, C. H. W. London, linen-draper
Geraldes, S. C. London, merchant
Gray, B., and J. R. Wilson, and J. Richardson, London and Liverpool, merchants
Gomersall, J. J. Crowther, E. Riley, R. Campbell, and J. Ball, Huddersfield, and A. Ball, Halifax, merchants
Hazard, T. R. Liverpool, merchant
Hensham, T. and W. Liverpool, merchants
Holroyd, S. Saddleworth, innkeeper
Hughes, R. London, stable-keeper
Hanham, W. Bath, cooper
Hix, W. Lincoln, wool-buyer
Henry, R. late of Jamaica, merchant
Jacob, A. London, slopseller
Jordan, W. London, eating-house keeper
Jervis, J. Woolwich, baker
Knapp, J. London, victualler
Kneller, W. G. Stratford, chemist
Lamb, J. and J. Stockport, cotton spinners
Lookwood, G. Whitby, woollen-draper
Littlewood, J. East Greenwich, rope-maker
Lytlepool, H. Chilthorne Domer, butcher
Manderston, W. jun. Woolwich, glass-dealer
Mayne, E. G. London, grocer
Mitchell, R. Marasion, tailor
Mercer, W. Walton le dale, lime-burner
Niven, R. Manchester, silk-printer
Nash, J. Wotton-under-edge, currier
Northall, W. K. Wolverhampton, schoolmaster
Powell, R. Leeds, surgeon
Ratcliffe, T. London, cheesemonger
Rankin, A. London, china-painter
Rawlins, J. Liverpool, merchant
Ranyard, J. Lincoln, farmer
Rowntree, W. Newcastle, miller
Raffield, G. South Shields, ship-builder
Ridley, J. London, trimming-manufacturer
Sandilands, Rev. R. Pimlico, clerk
Smith, J. London-road, grocer
Sissell, T. London, tailor
Smith, C. Plymouth, linen-draper
Spence, J. Bishopwearmouth, dealer
Taylor, J. Rochdale, publican
Thomas, R. Plymouth Dock, wine and spirit merchant
Walker, C. Brighthelmstone, stationer
Waterworth, J. Manchester, dealer
Waller, J. Manchester, hatter
Welchman, J. Bradford, linen-draper
Worthington, H. and W. Rowlandson, Lancaster, braziers
Williams, S. sen. Gloucester, horse-dealer
Wilks, J. Bath, linen-draper
Wyllie, J. London, merchant
Zeegelar, F. Alverstoke, victualler.

Alphabetical List of Scotch Bankruptcies, announced between September 15 and October 10, 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Campbell, A. Edinburgh, haberdasher
Haldane, A. Crunzie, late in Torsonce, cattle-dealer
Middleton, W. Glasgow, merchant
Tait, J. Newton Stewart, merchant
Thomson, J. Newburgh, general merchant

DIVIDENDS.

Elder, W. Dalkeith, leather-merchant; by A. Gray, currier there, 22d January next
Falkirk Union Bank Company; by J. Russel, writer, Falkirk, 17th October
Garden, R. and H. W. Garden, Glasgow, merchants; by J. Robb, merchant there, 6th November
Hay, T. Edinburgh, ironmonger; at No. 122, High Street, there, 22d November
Hyslop, T. Penpont, merchant; by J. Kerr, Auchinsell, 4th November
Provand, W. Glasgow, merchant; by W. Carrick, accountant there, 25th October
Threshie, J. Dumfries, surgeon, apothecary, and druggist; by J. Sanders, writer there, 3d November

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF THE HON. HENRY ERSKINE.

Died, at his seat of Ammondell, Linlithgowshire, on the 8th instant, in the 71st year of his age, the Hon. Henry Erskine, second son of the late Henry David, Earl of Buchan.

Mr Erskine was called to the Scottish Bar, of which he was long the brightest ornament, in the year 1768, and was for several years Dean of the Faculty of Advocates; he was twice appointed Lord Advocate, in 1782 and in 1806, under the Rockingham and the Grenville administrations. During the years 1806 and 1807 he sat in Parliament for the Dunbar and Dumfries districts of boroughs.

In his long and splendid career at the Bar, Mr Erskine was distinguished not only by the peculiar brilliancy of his wit, and the gracefulness, ease, and vivacity of his eloquence, but by the still rarer power of keeping those seducing qualities in perfect subordination to his judgment. By their assistance, he could not only make the most repulsive subjects agreeable, but the most abstruse easy and intelligible. In his profession, indeed, all his wit was argument, and each of his delightful illustrations a material step in his reasoning. To himself it seemed always as if they were recommended rather for their use

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than their beauty. And unquestionably they often enabled him to state a fine argument, or a nice distinction, not only in a more striking and pleasing way, but actually with greater precision, than could have been attained by the severer forms of reasoning.

In this extraordinary talent, as well as in the charming facility of his eloquence, and the constant radiance of good humour and gaiety which encircled his manner in debate, he had no rival in his own times, and has yet had no successor. That part of eloquence is now mute,—that honour in abeyance.

As a Politician, he was eminently distinguished for the two great virtues of inflexible steadiness to his principles, and invariable gentleness and urbanity in his manner of asserting them. Such, indeed, was the habitual sweetness of his temper, and the fascination of his manners, that though placed, by his rank and talent, in the obnoxious station of a Leader of Opposition, at a period when political animosities were carried to a lamentable height, no individual, it is believed, was ever known to speak or to think of him with any thing approaching to personal hostility. In return, it may be said, with equal correctness, that though baffled in some of his pursuits, and not quite handsomely disappointed of some of the honours to which his claim was universally admitted, he never allowed the slightest shade of discontent to rest upon his mind, nor the least drop of bitterness to mingle with his blood. He was so utterly incapable of rancour, that even the rancorous felt that he ought not to be made its victim.

He possessed, in an eminent degree, that deep sense of Revealed Religion, and that zealous attachment to the Presbyterian Establishment, which had long been hereditary in his family. His habits were always strictly moral and temperate, and in the latter part of his life even abstemious. Though the life and the ornament of every society into which he entered, he was always most happy and most delightful at home, where the buoyancy of his spirits, and the kindness of his heart, found all that they required of exercise or enjoyment; and though without taste for expensive pleasures in his own person, he was ever most indulgent and munificent to his children, and a liberal benefactor to all who depended on his bounty.

He finally retired from the exercise of that profession, the highest honours of which he had at least *deserved*, about the year 1812, and spent the remainder of his days in domestic retirement at that beautiful villa which had been formed by his own taste, and in the improvement and adornment of which he found his latest occupation. Passing, then, at once from all the bustle and excitement of a public life to a scene of comparative inactivity, he never felt one moment of ennui or dejection; but retained unimpaired, till within a day or two of his death, not only all his intellectual activity and social affections, but, when not under the immediate affliction of a painful and incurable disease, all that gaiety of spirit, and all that playful and kindly sympathy with innocent enjoyment, which made him the idol of the young, and the object of cordial attachment and unenvying admiration to his friends of all ages.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 2. At Cuckney, in Nottinghamshire, the lady of Sir George Eyre, K. C. B. a daughter.

7. At Lausanne, Lady Sinclair, a stillborn child.

9. At Westwood, near Southampton, the lady of Rear-Admiral Otway, a daughter.

11. At Armagh, the Countess of Castlestuart, a daughter.

— Mrs Mackintosh, Nairngrove, Nairn, a son.

12. At Grangehill, Mrs Patrick of Trearne, a son.

13. At Cardington, the Hon. Mrs Waldegrave, a son.

14. At Kingsbarns Manse, Mrs Wright, a daughter.

15. At Rafford Manse, Mrs Mackay, a son.

18. At Glasgow, Mrs Laurence Craigie, a daughter.

— At Woodlands, Yorkshire, the lady of Sir Bellingham Graham, Bart. a daughter.

20. In London, the lady of the Hon. Alexander Murray, brother to the Earl of Dunmore, a son.

— In London, the lady of Sir William Duff Gordon, Bart. M. P. a daughter.

21. At Norwich, the lady of Captain Kennedy Clark, royal dragoons, a son.

23. The lady of Robert Ogle, Esq. of Eglingham, a son.

24. In London, Mrs Stevens, twins. Mrs S. has now been the mother of 26 children, and, in the doctor's opinion, like-

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ly to be the mother of more. The mother, and children are doing well. The lady in question attained her 40th year on the 20th curt.

26. At Abbey Hill, near Edinburgh, Lady Menzies of Menzies, a son.

— At the Hill-House, Coldingham, the lady of Lieutenant G. B. Landel, of the royal marines, a daughter.

— At the manse of Pencaitland, Mrs Mackellar, a son.

29. The wife of James Berry, weaver, Thimble Row, Perth, was safely delivered of three fine healthy girls, who, with the mother, are all doing well.

30. At Cambray, the lady of Major-General Sir John Lambert, K. C. B. a son.

October 1. At Sanson-house, the lady of Matthew Bell, Esq. a son.

2. At Hermand, the lady of Thomas Maitland, younger of Dundrennan, Esq. advocate, a son.

4. At Arnage, Mrs Ross of Arnage, a son.

5. At Barjarg, the lady of William F. Hunter, Esq. a daughter.

— The Right Hon. Lady Caroline Ann Macdonald of Clanronald, a daughter.

7. At Fraserfield, Mrs Forbes, a son.

MARRIAGES.

April 21. At Bombay, Lieutenant William Black, Adjutant of the Bombay Marine, &c. to Miss Jane Farquharson, eldest daughter of the Rev. Robert Farquharson, Coldstone, Aberdeenshire.

Sept. 7. George Lazenby, Esq. of Parliament Street, Dublin, to Miss Griglietti, of the Theatre Royal.

9. At Glasgow, John May, Esq. merchant there, to Mary Lyon, eldest daughter of John Alston of Westertoun, Esq.

15. At Liverpool, the Rev. Peter Brotherston, minister of the first charge of Dysart, to Miss Elizabeth Hurry, youngest daughter of the late John Hurry, Esq. of Liverpool.

— At Campbeltown, Alexander Downie, Esq. merchant, Glasgow, to Mary, only daughter of Alexander Buchanan, Esq. formerly of New York.

— At Alston Moor, Cumberland, Mr Andrew King, manufacturer, Glasgow, to Sarah Ann, daughter of the late William Hutchinson, Esq. Alston.

— At Ayr, Mr James Dunlop, of Haysmuir, to Anne, eldest daughter of Mr Robert Dalgliesh, in Dernshaw.

16. At Dunblane, Mr James M'Crone, of Glasgow, to Margaret, daughter of the late Mr William Fletcher, minister of the gospel at Bridge of Teith.

— At Glasgow, Mr William Findlay, of St John's, Newfoundland, to Miss Janet Orr of that city.

— At Edinburgh, Mr John Van Stavern, of Rotterdam, to Isabella, second daughter of the late Mr Robert Spalding.

22. At Edinburgh, James Roscoe, Esq. of Liverpool, to Miss Jane Macgibbon Douglas.

— At Stanwix, Major Macalister, of the 13th light dragoons, to Georgina Maria, daughter of James Graham, Esq. of Richardby, in the county of Cumberland.

23. At Putney, Claud Neilson, Esq. only son of Claud Neilson, Esq. of Ardarden, Dumbartonshire, to Renee, only daughter of the late Charles Clifton, Esq. of Demerara.

— At Edinburgh, George White, Esq. surgeon, to Eliza, only daughter of the late John Copland, Esq. of Minnygap.

24. At Kildeeren church, county Tipperary, David Cowan, Esq. of the 93d Highlanders, to Sarah Anne, daughter of the late Colonel Campbell.

25. At London, S. Usher, Esq. of Bristol, to Mrs Nairne, widow of the late Major Robert Nairne, of the Hon. East India Company's 6th regiment of cavalry.

27. At Kincraig, Lieutenant John Smith, 78th regiment, to Maria, daughter of the late George Fullerton, Esq. Collector of the Customs, Leith.

— At Limerick, J. Fitzwilliam Miller, Esq. late of the Royal Scots, to Prudence, daughter of the late Edward Ferreter, Esq. R. N.

29. At Ballogie, W. D. Lynch, Esq. of Great Russel Street, London, to Margaret, second daughter of Lewis Innes, Esq. of Balnacraig, Aberdeenshire.

— At Langholm, Lieutenant David Maxwell, of the Dumfries-shire militia, to Miss Lawrie, daughter of the late Rev. Mr John Lawrie, Ewes.

30. At Glasgow, Robert Semple, Esq. of Demerara, to Adriana, daughter of William Moore, Esq. of St Eustatius.

— At Hermand, John Fullerton, Esq. advocate, to Miss Georgina Hay Macdowall, youngest daughter of the late James Macdowall, Esq. merchant in Glasgow.

— At Birmingham, the Rev. James Carlile, of the Scotch Church, Dublin, to Mary, daughter of Mr Thomas Beilby, Birmingham.

Oct. 1. At the Chapelry of Bolton-upon-Swale, in the county of York, John Delaval, Earl of Tyrconnel, to Sarah, only child of Robert Crowe, Esq. of Kiplin, near Catterick, in the said county.

2. At Edinburgh, the Rev. James Yorstoun, minister of Hoddam, to Margaret, daughter of the late James Currie Carlyle, Esq. of Bridekirk.

Lately, At Leith, Duncan Macnab, Esq. Deputy Assistant-Commissary-General to the Forces, to Miss Elizabeth M. Campbell, eldest daughter of Duncan Campbell, Esq. Sheriff-Substitute, Campbeltown.

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Lately, At Croydon, J. Macdowall, Esq. of Meadow Place, Edinburgh, to Catherine Henrietta, third daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Tudor.

DEATHS.

August 2. At Montreal, Mrs Orkney, spouse of James Orkney, Esq. jeweller, Quebec.

18. At Aberdeen, James Jameson, Esq. late of the Royal Navy.

24. At New York, Mr Holman, the celebrated tragedian, who so long performed with great applause at the London and other theatres. He was a descendant of Sir John Holman, Bart. of Warkworth Castle, and was distinguished as a gentleman and a scholar. He went to America in 1812, since which time he has uninterruptedly pursued his histrionic career in that country. Mrs Holman, Miss Moore, and Mrs Saunders of the same theatre, were struck dead by lightning. This dreadful calamity happened two days before the death of Holman.

September 1. At Kirkton Manse, near Hawick, the Rev. John Elliott, minister of that parish.

— At Hawick, Mr John Renwick, merchant.

5. At Hemus Terrace, Chelsea, aged 79, Major Brereton Poynter. He entered his Majesty's service in 1755, and served with General Wolfe in America, and was in the memorable battle at Quebec.

6. At Youghall, in Ireland, Mrs Loch, wife of Captain John Loch, late of the 25th regiment of foot.

8. At Foulden House, James Wilkie, Esq. of Foulden, in the 72d year of his age.

9. At Inverness, Jean Robertson. This extraordinary character usually employed herself in gathering dulse and shell-fish, with which she occupied her station in the market, until within a few days of her death. She would occasionally take a trip to the country to retail tea, and was not ashamed to beg at times. After her death, upwards of L. 60 in bank bills, and L. 3 in silver, were found in her apartment, which she had completely filled with clothes, provisions, and fuel, piled up to the roof, leaving only about four feet round the fireplace of vacant space; yet the poor wretch appeared uniformly in the same tattered garb upwards of 20 years, and is supposed to have shortened the period of her existence by abstaining from the common necessaries of life.

11. At Maxwelltown House, Mrs Armstrong, widow of William Armstrong, M.D. St Kitt's, and daughter of Sir Charles Erskine of Alva, Bart.

— At Queensferry, James Carfrae, Esq. merchant, Edinburgh.

— At Kirkaldy, Isabella, only daughter of John Ford, Esq. Provost of that burgh, in the 21st year of her age.

12. At Bath, Sir John M'Mahon.

— Thomas Napier, Esq. of Randolph Hill. In passing along one of the locks of the canal, near Falkirk, he unfortunately fell over, and was drowned.

— At London, Mr John Erck, in his 23d year, from loss of blood, occasioned by the lancing of his gums.

14. At Banwell, in the 82d year of his age, Mr Francis Keen, the old and faithful clerk of the Friendly Society of that place for nearly thirty years. He will long be remembered as a self-taught artist in musical instrument making, book-binding, and other ingenious arts. Some years ago, he actually began and finished an organ of sufficient dimensions for a moderate sized church. It appears, by records still extant, that his ancestors were inhabitants of Banwell prior to A.D. 1331, 22d Henry VIII. as one of them, Edmund Keen, was a parish officer that year. In the year 1555, 3d Philip and Mary, William and Robert Keen, two brothers of this family, died, and were buried in the same grave; and a similar melancholy occurrence took place in the family in 1811, as two young men, neither of them twenty years old, named George and Jacob Keen, brothers, and grandsons of the subject of the present memoir, died within a week of each other, and were interred in the same grave.

15. At his house in Hill Street, Arbroath, William Cruikshank, Esq. late of the island of Jamaica.

— At New Spynie, the Rev. George Machardy, minister of that parish, much and justly regretted.

16. At Kilmarnock, Mrs Mary Parker, relict of Dr Jasper Tough of Hillhead.

— At Barns, Mrs Burnett of Barns.

— At Edinburgh, in the 79th year of his age, Thomas Sommers, his Majesty's glazier for Scotland, and the oldest deacon of the fourteen incorporated trades of that city.

17. At Ponton House, near Grantham, after a very short illness, in her 67th year, Lady Kent, relict of Sir Charles Kent, Bart.

— At George's Place, Leith Walk, Edinburgh, Mr George Gibson, senior, merchant in Leith.

18. At Banff, aged 50 years, John Macleod, Esq. Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, much and justly regretted by all his friends and acquaintances.

19. At London, Mrs Frances Cunynghame, relict of Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Cunynghame of Cloncaird, and youngest daughter of the late Sir John Whitefoord, Bart. of Whitefoord.

— At Culross, Miss Johnston, daughter of the late James Johnston of Sands.

— At Dunfermline, in the 85th year of

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his age, Adam Low, Esq. of Fordel, some time Provost of that borough; a gentleman well known for his benevolent exertions in the cause of humanity.

20. At his house, Castle Street, Carlisle, on the 20th ult. Hugh James, Esq. M. D. aged 45, youngest son of the late Rev. Dr James of Arthuret. In the attendance upon a poor patient he contracted the malignant distemper which terminated his valuable life in a few days.

— At Kirkeim, near Stutgard, of apoplexy, Duke Louis of Wirtemberg, uncle to the King of Wirtemberg.

— At Aberdeen, aged 24, Mrs Helen Raitt, widow of Captain William Raitt, late of the Royal Navy, and daughter of the Rev. Dr Thomson, minister of Footdee, Aberdeen.

— At Glasgow, Miss Isabella Douglas Garden, youngest daughter of Francis Garden, Esq.

— At Learney, Aberdeenshire, Margaret Brebner, eldest unmarried daughter of Alexander Brebner, Esq. of Learney.

21. At Stonehaven, in her 90th year, Mrs Mary Rose, widow of James Young, Esq. Sheriff Substitute of Kincardineshire.

— At Inveresk House, Miss Margaret Mary Baird, daughter of Sir James Gardiner Baird of Saughtonhall, Bart.

22. At Whitehill, near Musselburgh, Mr Joseph Brown, aged 89 years.

— At Dundee, Captain Andrew M'Culoch, of the Royal navy.

— At London, Major-General Horace Churchill.

23. Hugh Mackay, Esq. of St Martin's Lane, London, aged 80.

24. At Falkirk, Mr John Russell, watchmaker to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

25. At Interlaken in Switzerland, Lord Melgund, eldest son of the Earl of Minto.

— At Kilmarnock, after a few days illness, Susannah, and on the 29th, Jane, only daughters of R. D. Jackson, M.D.

28. At Cheltenham, in the 72d year of his age, Thomas Bidwell, Esq. who, during the last 25 years of his life, had filled the office of Chief Clerk in the department of Foreign Affairs, into which he entered 50 years ago.

29. At Edinburgh, on the 29th ult. Mrs Alves, relict of Dr Alves of Shipland, Inverness-shire.

30. After about five hours indisposition, occasioned by fright, Mrs Thurman, widow, of Portsea. She awoke from sleep, and imagined her bed-room was on fire; her alarm was groundless, but she expired under the effects of her terror.

October 2. At Edinburgh, in the 85th year of his age, Dr Monro, Professor of Medicine, Anatomy, and Surgery, in the University of Edinburgh.

— In the Isle of Wight, Henry David son Milligan, Esq. third son of the late Robert Milligan, Esq. of Roslyn, Hampstead.

— John Gray, Esq. of Middle Ord.

— At Hawick, of typhus fever, Jane, youngest daughter of Mr Robert Armstrong, printer there. Her sister Margaret, aged 17, died a few days before of the same disorder.

4. At Brighton, Thomas Walker, Esq. late of London, banker.

5. At Edinburgh, Mr Patrick Stevenson, City Chamberlain's Office.

6. At Annan, Walter Bell, Esq. of Netheralbie, some time writer in Edinburgh, sincerely regretted.

— James Clunie, Esq. Collector of the Customs at Berwick, aged 48.

7. At London, Mr Henry Burne, aged 18, youngest son of Thomas Burne, Esq. of the house of Hazard, Burne, and Co. of the typhus fever.

Lately, Her imperial Highness the Archduchess Hermine, wife of the Archduke Palatine of Hungary. This Princess died in child-bed, after giving birth, prematurely, to a Prince and Princess. The former is also dead.

At Letterkenny, in the county of Donnegal, of an infectious fever, caught in the discharge of his duty as Inspector-General of Stamp Duties, John H. Barclay, Esq.

At London, aged 72, Sir James Earle, Knight, F. R. S. Master of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c.

Of a typhus fever, the Rev. Sam. Close, of Elm Park, country of Armagh.

At Londonderry, Richd. Townsend, Esq. M. D. formerly a physician of eminence in Cork.

At Londonderry, of typhus fever, John Cunningham, Esq.

At Orlingbury, in Northamptonshire, Elizabeth Susanna Frederica, Countess Wartensleben, wife of the Rev. John Witehouse, Rector of Orlingbury, and widow of the late Joseph Ewart, Esq. formerly his Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Berlin.

George Ramsay and Co. Printers, Edinburgh.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

BEING A NEW SERIES OF

The Scots Magazine.

NOVEMBER 1817.

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LONDON.

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HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days.	Morn.		Even.		Days.	Morn.		Even.	
Nov.	H.	M.	H.	M.	Dec.	H.	M.	H.	M.
Fr. 21	12	42	12	59	Sa. 6	12	23	12	52
Sa. 22			1	16	Su. 7			1	19
Su. 23	1	34	1	50	M. 8	1	45	2	10
M. 24	2	7	2	24	Tu. 9	2	36	3	1
Tu. 25	2	42	2	57	W. 10	3	24	3	48
W. 26	3	15	3	32	Th. 11	4	12	4	35
Th. 27	3	51	4	9	Fr. 12	4	57	5	20
Fr. 28	4	29	4	50	Sa. 13	5	44	6	8
Sa. 29	5	14	5	40	Su. 14	6	32	6	57
Su. 30	6	5	6	34	M. 15	7	22	7	51
Dec.					Tu. 16	8	20	8	49
M. 1	7	5	7	37	W. 17	9	21	9	53
Tu. 2	8	12	8	47	Th. 18	10	23	10	52
W. 3	9	23	9	55	Fr. 19	11	18	11	45
Th. 4	10	28	10	59	Sa. 20	12	8	12	30
Fr. 5	11	30	11	56					

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Nov. 23. 30 *m.* past 9 after.
Last Quarter, Dec. 1. 57 —— 7 after.
New Moon, —— 8. 12 —— 0 noon.
First Quarter, —— 15. 11 —— 11 morn.

TERMS, &c.

Nov. 30. St Andrew's Day.
Dec. 10. Salmon fishing in Forth and Tay begins.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It having been found inexpedient, at present, to notice publicly, and quite impracticable to acknowledge privately, in every instance, a number of Communications lately received for various departments of the Magazine, the Editors beg leave generally to assure their Correspondents, that, though they have been, and in future may be, under the necessity of postponing, for a time, the insertion of some of their Contributions, yet that this delay ought not to be considered as equivalent to a rejection. Out of upwards of Forty Papers transmitted to them within these few weeks, besides those already printed, there are very few indeed which they do not think would be acceptable to their readers. The greater number of these shall appear with the least possible delay; and they hope that the additional half-sheet given in this Number will be received as a proof of their anxiety to meet the wishes of Contributors to the Work, as well as of their gratitude for the uncommon degree of public favour it has already experienced.

Edinburgh, November 15, 1817.

*** The Correspondents of the EDINBURGH MAGAZINE AND LITERARY MISCELLANY are respectfully requested to transmit their Communications for the Editors to ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and COMPANY, Edinburgh, or LONGMAN and COMPANY, London, to whom also orders for the Work should be particularly addressed.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

NOVEMBER 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE AGAMEMNON OF ESCHYLUS, ILLUSTRATED WITH TRANSLATIONS.

It has justly been remarked by a very ingenious essayist on the Greek Drama, * that "it is rather extraordinary, that, with the example of Homer before their eyes, whose characters are always men of nature, each marked by his own individual peculiarity,—the Greek tragedians should have often been so careless, or so unsuccessful, in this most important department of dramatic writing."—The fables of these poets are perhaps better conducted, and their incidents, although limited in their range, of a more pathetic kind, than we generally meet with on the modern stage. But it is chiefly the interest arising from situation, that they are anxious to excite, and while they give all the effect that can be given to this species of interest, they have very little conception of that individuality and distinction of character which forms so powerful a charm in dramatic composition, and is, in truth, the great animating soul of the dramas of Shakespeare. From possessing the wonderful talent of making every personage whom he produces in the fertility of his exhaustless invention, a real living Being separated from the general classes of existence, and moving and acting before us like one of ourselves, that great poet has far more than atoned for all his faults and absurdities, and makes us almost as indifferent about these faults as he seems to have been himself.

The ancient drama, from the peculiarity of its origin amid the ritual of religion, and loaded as it was by the coldness and inaction of its Chorus, seems to have been regarded more in the light of a moral poem, than as a representation of human life, and it is, indeed, as this learned writer has observed, much rather to Homer than to the tragic poets of Greece, that we are to look for those varied and perfect exhibitions of life and manners, which are more, perhaps, in the spirit of our own Shakespeare, than any thing else in antiquity. These observations, however, it ought to be mentioned, apply much more to Sophocles and Euripides, than to the great founder of the Greek tragedy, Eschylus—who, in the drama which was rising in his hands, seems clearly to have perceived the importance of making his personages characteristic, and even while he allots to his Chorus a greater portion of his poem, than was done by his successors, he yet contrives to render that cumbersome machine much more dramatic than it ever appears in them. The sublime imagination of this poet, when he soars into the unfathomed fields of his mythology, is strikingly displayed in the dramas of Prometheus and of the Furies; in the tragedy of Agamemnon, of which it is here proposed to give some account,

* See Remarks on the Tragedy of Philoctetes in the sixth number of the Edinburgh Monthly Magazine. The same writer has obliged us with the article on the *Iphigenia in Aulis* of Euripides, at page 240 of the present Work; and we have the satisfaction of being enabled to promise our readers a further continuation of his learned and admired "Remarks on Greek Tragedy," in our next number.—EDIT.

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we have the finest examples of his skill in the delineation of character, and the display of passion; and the chief object of the present essay and of the quotations to be produced from a very imperfect translation of this noble performance, is, accordingly, to illustrate the *dramatic* genius of Eschylus, although, at the same time, instances will present themselves to us as we proceed of his general powers of description, and of the fervour of his Lyrical poetry.

The story of the Agamemnon relates to the murder of that hero by his wife Clytemnestra, at the instigation of her paramour Egisthus. No sooner has the unfortunate Prince, on his return from Troy, entered his own house, than he is decoyed by the Queen into a bath, where, winding a robe around him, from which he is unable to extricate himself, she stabs him; and Egisthus and she usurp the sovereign rule. This incident the poet has brought out with the least possible appearance of artifice; but still, it is to be remarked, with the most consummate skill and judgment, contriving throughout to seize those points in the story which are the best adapted for exhibiting his characters in their most impressive forms. The drama opens with a very striking circumstance, It had been agreed upon at the departure of Agamemnon, that upon the success of the expedition, a fire should be lighted upon Mount Ida, which was to be repeated at proper intervals, till the blaze of triumph should be distinctly seen from his palace in Argos. The moment of the opening of the drama is the appearance of this welcome light, and the character first introduced is a faithful watchman attached to his master's family, who is represented as walking upon the top of the palace, and anxiously looking for the long-expected object of his watch. In his simple and natural soliloquy, we get some insight into the infidelity of Clytemnestra, though, at the same time, of so imperfect a kind, that we are by no means permitted to see through that deep veil of hypocrisy which the poet throws around her, and which is intended partly to deceive the spectators, as well as the persons of the drama.—

Watchman. Would that the Gods would
free me from my toil,
My long year's watch, which on this palace roof
I keep, the house of the Atridæ, e'en
Like to a trusty dog—and have the while
Beheld the constant setting and the rise
Of all the nightly stars, their fair assemblage
In the mid sky—and those conspicuous ones
Flaming aloft, the shining lords of night,
That give to men winter and summer hours.—
Even to this day the signal of the light
I watch—the expected blaze of fire from Troy
That is to bring the story of its fall:
Happy if that report may cow the heart
Of my bad mistress, treacherous to her lord!
O heavy case! that in my dewy couch,
While Night and all her stars are overhead
Travelling, is powerful to drive off the assault
Of sleep, and from the visitation guard me
Of dreams—for real terrors freeze my blood,
So that my eyelids never droop or close—
Nor needs there hum or whistle to awake
My drowsy senses, tears and sighs instead
Keep off the stealing slumber—for this house
Fallen from its integrity, my master's
House, unsound, alas! at core!—O would that light
The messenger of good appear, relief
To me from labour of body and mind!—
See! see!
Behold it, the blest beam crossing the Night
With noon-day radiance!—Now shall Argos rouse
Its choral songs and dances, at this chance
Rejoicing! Hola! Ho! Awake the queen,
The wife of Agamemnon—let her press
Her couch no more—but through the house shout out
The note of gratulation—for the light,
The beacon flame, if it speaks truth, brings tidings
That Troy indeed is taken!—May this hand
Soon touch the honoured hand of him, my king!—
O the foul secret!—but my tongue shall never
Speak it—'tis as a bull's weight pressed it down!—
The walls, the walls themselves, if they had voice,
Might utter it with best assurance!—Never
Shall hint from me convey the guilty knowledge
Beyond its present limits!

When the watchman retires, the Chorus is introduced, consisting of

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the old men of the city, who are supposed to have been left behind when the youthful warriors of the land had followed their king into battle; and are represented as a kind of council of the queen. Upon being informed of the beacon light, she had sent out orders for a public rejoicing, and required the attendance of these her ancient counsellors. Before coming into her presence, they consume, it must be owned, a most unconscionable length of time in talking and singing; but there is much mysterious grandeur in those dark forebodings of evil which sit deep upon their souls, and which had taken possession of them ever since the horrible incident of the sacrifice of Iphigenia. This Chorus is extremely characteristic: they are feeble old men, full of remembrances and presages, which the poet works up into fine wild starts and rhapsodies—but quite inefficient when they are called upon to act. They describe themselves very accurately and pathetically in their first speech.

Meantime the flower of all the land departed.
We poor old wrinkled creatures, feeble-hearted,
Yea, children more than half,
Move, propping our weak limbs upon a staff!
The youthful juices of our joints all sunk
In stiffening age—our warrior sinews shrunk!
Such is life's dreary fall,
Its foliage withering all,
And dropping off apace.
Three-footed creeping takes the place
Of the twin runners of the race:
Like infancy we seem,
Or rather like a dream
Wandering unhallowed in the day's bright beam!

Some fine touches on the sacrifice of Iphigenia, evidently the groundwork of the celebrated description of Lucretius, close this long wandering harangue.

Her piercing cries
For pity—her soft form—these warlike chiefs despise!

Nay to the ministering priests, her steady sire
Could even issue orders when on the shrine
Like victim-goat she fell, her loose attire
Wrapping her lovely limbs—tight to confine
Her tongue, and bind her lips, that no weak whine
Might bring on them ill omen!—There she lay
Her rosy tincture vanished—like a sign
Or statue—beautiful though mute—no way
Finding to utter word, though much she had to say!—
Tears dash'd the cheeks of those who held the knife
Above that beauteous form, once flitting gay
Through her paternal hall—not yet a wife,
But a young maiden, singing roundelay
To cheer the banquet and drive care away!
What butcher-work ensued I will not tell!
Only that Calchas never was said nay—
And that sweet lady unrevenged fell—
How yet things will come round, 'tis not for me to spell.

Clytemnestra now makes her appearance, and in her firm and decided character, we have a fine contrast to the hesitation and imbecility of the Chorus. We see nothing, at first, either, that does not impress us with respect for her, and are half inclined to think that the watchman who had thrown out hints against her virtue, must have been slandering his mistress. Her triumphant joy on occasion of the great event which she announces, and the enthusiasm with which she describes the rapidity of the succession of fires by which the glorious intelligence was conveyed, seem quite natural, and characteristic merely of an ardent and noble-minded woman.

Chor. Here, then, in reverence of thy majesty,
I come great Clytemnestra! meet it is
The wife of prince or ruler meet with honour,
The more if he is absent from his throne;
I long to hear what message of good news,
At least what hopes of good have reached thine ear,
To prompt thy grateful offerings. Yet if silence
Seems to thee best, I would not be obtrusive.
Cly. Good news indeed, e'en as the proverb goes,
A cheerful morning after a dark night—
Joy greater than thy utmost hopes would augur:
None else—than that the Greeks have taken Troy.
Chor. What sayst thou? on mine ear hard of belief
The sounds fall scarcely audible.
Cly. The Greeks,
I say, have taken Troy! Do I speak plain?
Chor. Ay me! the flood of joy bursts forth in tears!

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Cly. Who would thine honesty of heart examine,
Need not look farther than thine eyes!
Chor. But what,
What proof hast thou of this? Is it quite certain?
Cly. Most certain, if no God is playing false!
Chor. Was it persuasion of some nightly vision?
Cly. No, no! I take no hints from slumbering fancy!
Chor. Perhaps some rumour, new from the nest, unfledged
With truth's full pinion, may have dazzled thee!
Cly. Am I a silly girl in thy account?
Chor. When fell the city—tell me at what time?
Cly. E'en in this night, now yielding to the beams
Of rising morn!
Chor. What speed could bring such message?
Cly. The speed of Vulcan! He first sent his blaze
From Ida's top, and light from light conveyed
The message flame! Ida flashed forth the beam
To the Hermæan rock on Lemnus isle:
The island fire, successive, touched the top
Of Athos, hill of Jove, o'er the wide breast
Of Helles' sea, travelling with unchecked course,
E'en from its pitchy bosom pouring gold
Upon the waves, like to a rising sun—
Till on the watch towers of Macistus fell
The streaming radiance—nor that giant hill,
As sunk in sleep, shunned to repeat the tale—
His beacon too sent forth its blaze, and gave it
To those who watched beside the winding shores
Of Euripus—who lighted next their fires
Of crackling brushwood, (now on Grecian soil,)
And that blest light prevailing, nothing faint,
Poured its broad flame o'er all Asopus plain,
Like the full moon's wide glory—so it fell
Upon Cithæron's ridge, who thence received
The office, and sent forth another herald,
More powerful still than those before him—winging
His luminous speed over Gorgopis lake,
Till to the mount of Egiplanctus coming,
He left the mandate not to scant the blaze.
So from that mountain streamed another beard
Of brilliant flame invincible—bright crossing
The gulf Saronic, every promontory
Tipping as on it passed—till to our neighbours
The Arachnacan hills it gave the beam
Of gratulation, which they soon repeated
Even to this royal house of Atreus' sons—
The same as we had seen the very fire
Flaming on Ida—so certain and so swift
These fiery messengers—that first and last
Seem equal and the same;—these are my proofs,
The message by my husband sent from Troy!

Clytemnestra leaves the Chorus once more to their songs, which are intended to be notes of triumph; but their melancholy forebodings still prevail, and they rather recur to the wretched circumstance of the departure of Helen, than dwell upon the seemingly glorious termination of the war which that sad event had occasioned.

Chor. She followed him!—alas! in bitter hour,
Leaving behind, for her own country's flower,
Quick burnishing of shields and spears—all motion—
Running to ships and ploughing the wild ocean!
What did she bear to Ilium as her dower?
Ruin to every house, temple, and tower!
Yea, when she passed beneath its lofty gate,
Prophetic sound
Seem'd muttering round—
O city of the Gods! now comes thy fate!
Yet none could speak
Of that soft cheek
Downcast in silence, aught
That seem'd reproach!—Nor he she left behind
Forgets her, seas between,—he seeks to find
In imitative statues solace—idle thought!
Can marble features, and blank vacancies,
Flash out the light of love like woman's eyes?
And what avail his nightly dreams that bring
A melancholy joy, still on the wing?
What though he seems to see her, when his hands
Would clasping reach where the fair phantom stands,
His sleep departing, she too flies with sleep!

They conclude with even expressing their doubts as to the truth of the report which the Queen had made to them, when she returns, and informs them that she sees a herald posting towards the city, who, she supposes, is bringing confirmation of the joyful intelligence. The herald enters, making, as he advances, a very pathetic address to his native land, to which

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he had now again unexpectedly returned, after the absence of so many years; and he concludes with formally announcing, not only the destruction of Troy, but the near approach of Agamemnon. The management of the poet on this occasion is very skilful, and, when aided by the powers of the actor, must have had a wonderful effect. Clytemnestra, apparently taken by surprise, and under the necessity of laying her plans much more rapidly than she had expected, does not at first utter a word, but maintains one of those expressive silences for which Eschylus has been so much admired in some other instances. The dialogue proceeds for some time between the Herald and the Chorus, who address him with—

Chor. Hail from the army, herald of the Greeks!
Her. I thank thee, ready now, when the Gods please,
To die!
Chor. Sayst thou so, smit with the love
Of thine own land?
Her. Aye, smitten even to tears
Gushing for joy!

then goes on to mention the great sufferings which the army had endured in the course of their long warfare.

Her. Then might I tell
Of severe winters, when no bird could live,
Drifting from Ida its whole weight of snows;
Or summer heats, when not a breeze would stir
The billowless sea sleeping before our eyes
In dazzling noontide ardours—I might tell—
But wherefore?—'tis o'er now—the dead, the dead
Feel not these toils beneath their quiet sod—
No murmurs come from them—nor need we weep
O'er their past sufferings—then, for us who live
Past sufferings swell the tide of present joys!
We have been gainers from them—seeing now
Our country's sun once more—after long wandering
O'er many a sea and land!—I am commissioned
To bring these spoils sent by the Grecian army,
(Old ornaments they are of famous kings,)
To be hung up in temples of our Gods!
When this you hear and see, can you refrain
Longer to praise the people and their leaders,
And laud the Gods, prime authors of these goods?
Ye have what I would say!

The Chorus at last seem surprised at the silence of the Queen; and their reply to the herald rouses her at once from her reverie, and gives occasion for a very smooth, though somewhat overdone, exertion of her powers of hypocrisy.

Chor. Though scrupulous
From age, and anxious not to be too hasty
In giving credit even to good words,
I now can have no doubts—but chief thy tidings
Belong to Clytemnestra and this house,
My joy best follows sympathy with theirs.
Cly. What can I say, or in what words shout out
My joy, which I have not before expended, yea,
Soon as the flash of flame bursting on night
Gave to my heart belief of Ilium's fall!
I credited the omen—though derided
As a weak woman, of an easy faith—
And when the wise said so, I somewhat stumbled—
Yet ordered sacrifices to the Gods—sent forth
The noise of female shoutings through the streets—
While men and women crowded to the temples
And fanned the sacred fires!—What should I say,
Or how with thee hold converse,—from my husband
So soon expecting all the welcome tale?—
I hasten to prepare me for his coming,
The man beloved.—Can there be greater joy
To heart of woman, than when absent long
Amid the storms of war, some good God watching
O'er him—she beholds her lord again
Open the latch of his own door?—so tell him!
Bid him come quickly to his longing city—
To her whom (I may say so) he will find
Faithful as when he left her—a good steward
Over his house, e'en like a watch-dog, kind
To the master, fierce to all intruders—nothing
Different from what I was—my marriage seal
Not broken, from the weary length of years!
My joys have been with him—nor can reproach
Assail my name—pure metal—unalloyed!—

Were it not that Clytemnestra had been taken a little off her guard, she probably would not have made such vio-

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lent protestations. The speech which we shall see her afterwards make to her husband is not at all overdone, but is most artfully natural. In all this variety of conduct, suited to the difference of circumstances, this old poet, it is apprehended, shows quite as much knowledge of human nature as any of his most celebrated successors.

On the departure of the Queen, the Chorus obscurely intimate, that, in their opinion, "the lady protests too much," and that they do not quite give credit to her strong assertions; and then proceed to make inquiries concerning the fate of Menelaus and some of the other leaders. This introduces the following animated description of a storm, which had scattered the navy on its return.

Her. It was night
When rose at once the billows—ship on ship
Dashed with the fury of the Thracian winds,
Prow to prow butting in the storm, and wheeling
As drove the showery whirlwind—down they went—
Or scattered none knew where, the dizzy pilots
Losing their brains!—When rose the light of morn
Refulgent o'er the Egean sea—where'er
Its wild breast heaved—the corses of our friends
And fragments of the ships, were seen to rise
Bristling above the waves.—Some God, methinks,
It was, by stealth or by entreaty, guided
Our vessel safely through the perilous storm—
E'en as he held the helm—man ne'er could do it!
Howe'er it was—such fortune smiled upon us,
The harbour that received us was not either
The whirling bosom of the wave, nor breakers
Upon the rocky shore! Escaping thus
The belly of hell, the chambers of the deep,
Now in calm weather, yet not confident
In spirit, much we laboured in our thoughts
Upon our lost companions, vanished from us
Like ashes in the wind!—Whoso still live
No doubt, they deem of us, as we of them,
That we have perished! May the event to them
Prove alike prosperous!

Another choral song follows, beginning, in a very singular manner, with a pun, which, although it cannot well be translated, may yet be imitated. It may be remarked here, that the occasional plays upon words which are to be found in the Greek tragedians, and which have not escaped the animadversion of Mr Hume, in one of his notes to his history, are scarcely to be confounded with common quibbles, and have not altogether an unpleasing effect. Mr Hume says, "The name of Polynices, one of Œdipus's sons, means, in the original, *much quarrelling*. In the altercations between the two brothers in Eschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, this conceit is employed; and it is remarkable that so poor a conundrum could not be rejected by any of these three poets so justly celebrated for their taste and simplicity! What could Shakespeare have done worse?" Now, the circumstance that these quibbles are entirely on the meaning of proper names, may serve as an apology for them. As the names, in fact, have, in general, the meaning assigned them, it is not at all unnatural, even in circumstances of violent passion, that the imagination should seize upon them, and regard them, perhaps, in the light of omens, especially in those stages of society in which very considerable importance seemed to be attached to names. The sacred history affords innumerable instances of this supposed importance, and occasional allusions, too, to the meanings of names not at all unlike those of the Greek tragedians. In the Chorus before us, Eschylus has probably pushed this licence a little too far; he gives us no less than three puns upon one poor lady's name.* In the following imitation one only has been attempted, but it is to be feared with a still greater trespass against good taste than even all his three. Whatever may be said of the quibble, however, it will scarcely be denied that the Chorus itself opens with a very fine lyrical spirit, which the translator only regrets that it was not more in his power to transfuse.

Chor. O *hellish* is her name and nature,
Some foresight o'er his spirit came,
Who first to that fair perjured creature,
Gave *Helen* for a name!
Before her steps *hell's* caverns gaping
In tempest, combat, siege, and rapine,
Men, cities, fleets, have swallowed,
Since first smooth Zephyr filled her sails,
And flying from her home and marriage-bed,
She gave her wanton tresses to the gales!

* ἑλένας, ἑλανόρος, ἑλεπόλις.

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O keen upon her track pursuing,
A thousand ships their warriors bore
(Their flashing oars the waves bedewing)
On to the Trojan shore:
Where Simois steals between his willows,
At once they started from the billows,
And wove the web of bloody strife:
Then Ilium felt the wrath divine,
And cursed the hour when that perfidious wife
Mingled her ill-starred name with Priam's line.

In one of the following stanzas there is another very interesting picture of this misguided woman, of whom, in imitation of the kind-hearted Homer, the Greek poets are always disposed to speak tenderly:

And who could think that soul of beauty
That lightened o'er her loveliest face,
Seeming the very shrine of duty
Of royal rank the grace—
Could think those eyes so sweetly beaming
On every heart their soft light streaming,
Were quivers full of poisoned darts?
Ah! yet accurst these marriage vows!
The hospitable God to her imparts
His vengeance: an Erynnys this fair spouse!

The concluding stanza of this fine ode almost rises to a strain of Christian morality, and presents us with a view of humble happiness which rather reminds us of the pictures of our own Burns, than seems to flow from the clouded inspirations of a Heathen poet.

Not so the life, howe'er obscurely
Passed in the hovel's smoky gloom,
If Virtue light her lamp, that purely
The cottage can illume!
While from the gilded roofs retiring,
Where Pride with unclean hands aspiring,
Climbs to some glittering false reward—
She passes on to holier home,
Cheering the peasant's lot, though seeming hard,
Darkening the columns of the lordly dome!

On the conclusion of this choral song, Agamemnon himself makes his *entreé* in a triumphal car, and with a train of captives behind him. We see very little of him, but what we do see impresses us in his favour. He comes in triumphant, indeed, but is full of gratitude to the Gods; his head, in short, does not seem to be at all turned by his good fortune, and he is fully aware both of the envy and of the hazards attending any extravagant displays of success. He is much averse to an exhibition of this kind, which Clytemnestra proposes. In her speech to him, nothing can well be more finely represented than the collected and well acted demonstration of her virtue and affection, at the very moment that she has laid the plot for his destruction. In truth, the character of Clytemnestra is quite a masterpiece; and it really may be doubted whether there is any thing in Shakespeare himself superior to it. Lady Macbeth does not equal the wife of Agamemnon in the coolness and protraction of her duplicity; and at last, when the horrible deed is perpetrated, the burst of atrocious triumph, in which she gives vent to her stormy feelings, comes out with a much more wonderful effect from the deep restraint under which she had been so long forced to retain them. It has been already remarked, that the poet, although he gives us many intimations that all is not right with Clytemnestra, yet wishes us to be in some measure imposed upon by her; and her character, opening upon us by degrees, is much more impressive than if we were let into it at once. Not the slightest hint is given us of her intentions; she never speaks a word aside, (a very inartificial and clumsy mode, surely, of making the audience acquainted with the covert designs of the dramatic personages,) but we follow exactly the course of the feelings of those who are supposed to be really spectators of her conduct. The more that the management of the great Father of the Drama, in this particular, is studied, the more, it may be suggested, might dramatic poets learn of the true method of bringing out both their incidents and their characters. The following is a specimen of this scene, in which the treacherous queen receives her good-natured and unsuspecting husband:

Cly. Now the fountains of my tears are dried,
And not a drop remains! These eyes, indeed,
Are damaged with long watching, while my tears
Wore out the idle torches all night long—
Or if at times I slept—how oft I started
From unsound slumbers, at the passing hum
Or motion of a gnat—while in my dreams
Were crowded horrible visions of thy fate.
Outnumbering far the moments of my sleep!
O from these sufferings, which I bore in silence—

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What shall I say now, that relieved, I meet
My bosom's lord—what shall I deem of him!
Is he not to my peace, as to the fold
The shepherd's dog—the cable to the ship—
The column to the temple—to the father
An only son—land rising, out of hope,
Before the storm-tossed mariners—the beam
Of sunshine breaking on the wintry storm—
Or fountain to the thirsty traveller?
O happiness to scape from violent woe
That could not but be borne! O may no envy
Its malice interpose to blight the joy
Of these dear salutations—I have had
My share of evil!—Come then, my lov'd lord—
Alight thee from thy chariot—yet one moment
Stay—place not that conquering foot that trode
The dust of fallen Troy, on vulgar ground!
Where are ye, my attendants? Gave I not
Command that carpets of rich purple grain
Should shroud the passage from the conqueror's car
To his unlooked for home?—Aye, let them blaze
Beneath his glorious steps!—Nor doubt my care
Hath ordered all within to correspond!
Ag. Daughter of Leda—leave to others, love,
To trumpet out my praises—nor receive me
With female luxury—as I were some chief
Barbarian—before whom heads must duck down
And lick the dust, clamouring their shouts of folly!
Strew not my paths with gaudy carpeting—
Footing unsafe for men—these are the honours
For the processions of the Gods: Shall I,
A mortal, tread upon the varied pride
Of ornaments like these? I should dread doing it!
Give me the honours of a man—I affect
Not Deity—nor does my fame depend
On footcloths, howe'er bright in Tyrian dye!
Thank heaven—I know myself—no trivial gift—
I seek no happiness beyond the present,—
Or greater glory—so it be granted me
To my life's end.

(To be continued.)

JOHNNIE FAA, THE GYPSEY CHIEF, AND THE COUNTESS OF CASSILLIS.

"Nupta Senatori comitata est Hippia ludium
Ad Pharon, et Nilum."
JUVENAL. Satyr. 6.

As the author of the admirable romance of Guy Mannering has rendered every thing respecting Scottish gypsies of extreme interest; it is presumed, that the following details regarding the elopement of a fair countess with the king of that dusky band, will prove not unacceptable to the generality of our readers.

John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, commonly termed "the grave and solemn Earl," married to his first wife Lady Jean Hamilton, daughter of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington. It is said, that this match took place contrary to the inclinations of the young lady, whose affections had been previously engaged by a certain Sir John Faa of Dunbar, who was neither grave nor solemn, and moreover, much handsomer than his successful rival. While Lord Cassillis, who, by the way, was a very zealous Puritan, was absent on some mission from the Scottish Parliament to that of England, Sir John, with his followers, repaired to Cassillis, where the young lady then resided, and persuaded her to elope with him to England. As ill luck would have it, the Earl returned home before the lovers could cross the Border—pursued and overtook them—and in the conflict all the masquerade gypsies were slain save one, and the weeping Countess brought back to her husband's mansion, where she remained till a dungeon was prepared for her near the village of Maybole, wherein she languished for the short remainder of her life in humble sorrow and devotion.

This is one edition of the story, still very current in the county where the elopement took place; but it is not supported by the tenor of the ballad, which was composed by the only surviving ravisher, and is contradicted by a number of those who still recite the verses; indeed, a very numerous jury of matrons, "spinsters and knitters in the sun," pronounce the fair Countess guilty of having eloped with a genuine gypsey, though compelled in some degree to that low-lived indiscretion by certain wicked charms and philtres, of which Faa and his party are said to have possessed the secret.

It is recorded in the ballad itself, that

"She gave to them the good wheat bread,
And they gave her the ginger"—

which doubtless contained some drug to enforce love. At that time the belief in the power of such philtres was

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extremely prevalent; and means were resorted to in their composition far too abominable to be related here. I do not, however, find ginger mentioned as an ingredient in any of those satanic nostrums, of which the component parts have been committed to writing; but from its peculiar qualities, it probably was in request. The unfortunate lady was also assailed by the power of *Glamour*, which the stoutest chastity proved quite unable to resist, if unaided by a morsel of the mountain ash tree, an amber necklace, a stone forced by stripes from the head of a live toad, or the prudent recollection of keeping both thumbs close compressed in the hand, during the presence of the malevolent charmer.

Glamour, according to Scottish interpretation, is that supernatural power of imposing on the eye-sight, by which the appearance of an object shall be totally different from the reality. Mr Scott, describing the wonderful volume of Michael of Balwearie, says,—

"It had much of *Glamour* might
Could make a lady seem a knight;
The cobwebs on a dungeon wall
Seem tapestry in a lordly hall;
A nut-shell seem a gilded barge,
A sheeling seem a palace large,
And youth seem age, and age seem youth—
All was delusion, nought was truth."

See the note to that passage, and the Border Minstrelsy, Vol. III. p. 119, for many illustrations of the subject; but the most extraordinary instances of Glamour that I have met with, are collected by Delrio, in his citations from Dubravius's History of Bohemia. Winceslaus, son to the Emperor Charles IV. marrying the Duke of Bavaria's daughter,—the Duke, who understood that his son-in-law delighted in feats of conjuration, sent to Prague for a waggon-load of magicians to enliven the nuptials. While the most scientific of these were puzzling for some new illusion, Winceslaus's family conjuror, Zyto by name, who had slid privately in among the crowd, of a sudden presented himself, having his mouth, as it seemed, enlarged on both sides, open to his very ears; he goes straight to the Duke's chief conjuror, and swallows him up with all that he wore, saving his pantoufles, which being dirty, he spit a great way from him; after this, feeling himself uneasy with such a load upon his stomach, he hastens to a great tub that stood full of water, voids the man into it, and then brings him back to the company, dripping wet, and overwhelmed with confusion; on which the other magicians would show no more tricks. This same Master Zyto, who, par paranthese, was himself carried off bodily by the devil at last, could appear with any visage he chose. When the king walked on the land, he would seem to swim on the water towards him; or, if his majesty was carried in a litter with horses, Zyto would follow in another borne up by cocks. He made thirty fat swine of so many wisps of hay, and sold them to a rich baker, at a high price, desiring him not to allow them to enter into any water; but the baker, forgetting this injunction, found only the wisps of hay swimming on the surface of a pool; and in a mighty chafe seeking out Zyto, who was extended upon a bench, and seemingly asleep, he seized him by one leg to awake him, when lo! both the leg and thigh seemed to remain in his hands; which filled him with so much terror, that he complained no more of the cheat. Zyto, at the banquet of the king, would sometimes change the hands of the guests into the hoofs of an ox or horse, so that they could not extend them to the dishes to help themselves to any thing; and if they looked out of the windows, he beautified their heads with horns;—a trick, by the by, which perhaps John Faa could have played to Lord Cassillis with infinitely greater significance. *

It is not now possible to fix the precise date of Lady Cassillis's elopement with *the Gypsie laddie*. She was born in the year 1607, and is said to have died young; but, if she ran off with her lover during her hus-

* Two magicians, says Delrio, met in the court of Elizabeth, Queen of England, and agreed that in any one thing they should certainly obey each other. The one, therefore, commands the other to thrust his head out of the casement, which he had no sooner done than a huge pair of stag's horns were seen planted on his forehead, to the no small delight of the spectators, who laughed at and mocked him extremely; but, when it came to the horned magician's turn to be obeyed, he made his adversary stand upright against a wall, which instantly opening, swallowed him up, so that he was never afterwards seen.

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band's first journey to England, in quality of ruling elder deputed to the assembly of divines at Westminster, 1643, to ratify the solemn league and covenant, she could not even then have been in her first youth; and it is certain that she lived long enough in her confinement at Maybole to work a piece of tapestry, still preserved at Colzean House, in which she represented her unhappy flight, but with circumstances unsuitable to the details of the ballad, and as if the deceits of Glamour had still bewildered her memory; for she is mounted behind her lover, gorgeously attired, on a superb white courser, and surrounded by a groupe of persons who bear no resemblance to a herd of tatterdemalion Gypsies.

But it appears, from the criminal records of Edinburgh, that, in January 1624, eight men, among whom were Captain John Faa, and five more of the name of Faa, were convicted on the statute against Egyptians, and suffered according to sentence. I am strongly tempted to think that this was the Johnnie of the ballad, whom Lord Cassillis wisely got hanged, in place of slaying him in the field.* Indeed, a stanza of the song, as it is sometimes recited, states that *eight* of the Gypsies were hanged at Carlisle, and the rest at the Border. If this conjecture be right, the lady's lover was married as well as herself; for, a few days after John's trial, Helen Faa, relict of the Captain, Lucretia Faa, and nine other female Gypsies, were brought to judgment, and condemned to be drowned; but this barbarous sentence was afterwards commuted to that of banishment, under pain of death to them and all their race should they ever return to Scotland.

The Earl of Cassillis divorced his lady *a mensa et thoro*, and confined her, as has been already said, in a tower at Maybole, where eight heads carved in stone, below one of the turrets, are still pointed out as representing eight of the luckless Egyptians. It ought to be remembered, that this frail fair one did not carry on the noble family into which she married; for she bore only two daughters to the Earl, of whom one became the wife of Lord Dundonald, and the other, in the last stage of antiquated virginity, bestowed her hand, and what was still better, her purse, upon the youthful Gilbert Burnet, then the busy intriguing inmate of Hamilton Palace, where Lady Margaret Kennedy generally resided, afterwards the well-known Bishop of Salisbury.

The print here given of Lady Cassillis is taken from a picture, the original of which is at Colzean House. There is another portrait, said to be of this Countess, in the Duke of Hamilton's apartments at Holyroodhouse; but it is evidently a picture of Dorothea, Countess of Sunderland, copied from Vandyke, and naturally enough in the possession of the noble family of Hamilton, as Lady Sunderland's grand-daughter, Lady Anne Spencer, was the first wife of James, Earl of Arran, afterwards Duke of Hamilton. It would surely much annoy the disdainful spirit of the fair Sacharissa, were spirits conscious of worldly disgrace, to have her picture pointed out as that of a woman who could condescend to elope with a base-born gypsey; she who was deaf to all the charms of plebeian song, and treated her tuneful admirer with unqualified contempt, merely because he had the ill fortune to be sprung from ignoble ancestry.

The copy of the ballad subjoined was transferred to paper from the recitation of a peasant in Galloway, and will be found to vary from the poem as it is commonly printed. Some lines have been omitted on account of their indelicacy, but it is comfortable to conclude, from the last stanza save one, that the lady, though she thought fit to elope, had not been actually criminal, when her lord overtook the gang, and secured his rambling moiety. It is to be regretted that he seems not to have taken her word on that subject, albeit he cannot justly be much blamed, considering his wife's giddiness, the wicked powers of glamour, and the enterprising spirit of fifteen *valiant men*,—"black but very bonnie."

* The family of Cassillis, in early times, had been so powerful, that the head of it was generally termed the King of Carrick. Sympson, in his description of Galloway, (MS. Adv. Lib.) tells us that "the Earls of Cassillis had long since great power in Galloway, which occasioned the following rhyme:—

"'Twixt Wigton and the town of Air,
Portpatrick and the cruives of Cree,
No man needs think for to bide there,
Unless he court with Kennedie."

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The gypsies they came to my Lord Cassillis' yett,
And O! but they sang bonnie;
They sang sae sweet, and sae complete,
That down came our fair Ladie.

She came tripping down the stairs,
And all her maids before her;
As soon as they saw her weel far'd face,
They coost their glamourie owre her.

She gave to them the good wheat bread,
And they gave her the ginger;
But she gave them a far better thing,
The gold ring off her finger.

"Will ye go with me, my hinny and my heart,
Will ye go with me, my dearie,
And I will swear, by the staff of my spear,
That your Lord shall nae mair come near thee?"

"Gar take frour me my silk manteel,
And bring to me a plaidie,
For I will travel the world owre,
Along with the Gypsie Laddie.

"I could sail the seas with my Jockie Faa,
I could sail the seas with my dearie,
I could sail the seas with my Jockie Faa,
And with pleasure could drown with my dearie."

They wandred high, they wandred low,
They wandred late and early,
Untill they came to an old tenant's barn,
And by this time she was weary.

"Last night I lay in a weel made bed,
And my noble Lord beside me,
And now I must ly in an old tenant's barn,
And the black crew glowring owre me."

"O hold your tongue, my hinny and my heart,
O hold your tongue, my dearie,
For I will swear by the moon and the stars
That thy Lord shall nae mair come near thee."

They wandred high, they wandred low,
They wandred late and early,
Untill they came to that wan water,
And by this time she was wearie.

"Aften have I rode that wan water,
And my Lord Cassillis beside me,
And now I must set in my white feet and wade,
And carry the Gypsie Laddie." *

* A ford, by which the Countess and her lover are said to have crossed the river Doon, from a wood near Cassillis House, is still denominated the Gypsies' Steps.

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By and by came home this noble Lord,
And asking for his ladie,
The one did cry, the other did reply,
She is gone with the Gypsie Laddie.

"Go saddle to me the black, he says,
The brown rides never so speedie,
And I will neither eat nor drink,
Till I bring home my Ladie."

He wandred high, he wandred low,
He wandred late and early,
Untill he came to that wan water,
And there he spied his Ladie.

"O wilt thou go home, my hinny and my heart,
O wilt thou go home, my dearie,
And I'll close thee in a close room
Where no man shall come near thee?"

"I will not go home, my hinny and my heart,
I will not go home, my dearie,
If I have brewn good beer I will drink of the same,
And my Lord shall nae mair come near me.

"But I will swear by the moon and the stars,
And the sun that shines so clearly,
That I am as free of the gypsie gang
As the hour my mother did bear me."

They were fifteen valiant men,
Black, but very bonny,
And they lost all their lives for one—
The Earl of Cassillis' Ladie.

ANECDOTES, HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND MISCELLANEOUS.

[This series of Anecdotes, collected by an eminent literary character now abroad, will be continued in our following Numbers.—*Edit.*]

I.—*Joannes Duns Scotus.*

THE literary world has its fashions and follies as well as the ethical. It was once the fashion to publish catalogues of imaginary or borrowed authors, in order to glorify one's country by those vain banners which the first sharp gale of criticism tore in pieces. The writers did not perceive, that, far from conferring honour on their country, they only excited doubts concerning its just pretensions, as the stars of truth were concealed by the clouds of falsehood.

In this way Dempster and others have rather obscured the literary merits of Scotland, and even the learned continue to doubt concerning the birth-place of the celebrated subject of this article; but I hope to evince, from the very concessions of a dissenter, that he was a native of Scotland.

The Latin life of John of Dunse, by Wading, an Irishman, historiographer of the Friar's Minors, (Mons, 1644, 8vo,) is an uncommon book. I have read it with great patience and attention, and the most rigid impartiality. Wading is anxious, in the mistaken notions of these times, to make our literary hero an Irishman, but is not a little embarrassed to find a town called *Duns* in Ireland. He takes a wide field when he supposes *some town* called *Dun* in the "northern part of Ireland." The English advocates have little more plausibility when they speak of a place called Dunstane in Northumberland; for why contract such a short name into *Duns*, as they pretend? Truth is always simple, and what more simple than to assume *Duns* or *Dunse*, a well known town in the south of Scotland? What more clear when our first authentic notices represent him as a boy conducted by two friars to Dumfries, a town in an adjoining county?

But the importance and singularity of the question demand further illustrations. The reader will remember the former fame of our hero thus trumpeted and drummed by a learned cardinal:—"Among all the scholastic doctors, I must regard Johannes Duns Scotus as a splendid sun obscuring all the stars of heaven, by the piercing acuteness of his genius; by the subtlety and the depth of the most wide, the most hidden, the most wonderful learning, this most subtle doctor surpasses all others, and, in my opinion, yields to no writer of any age. His productions, the admiration and despair even of the most learned among the learned, being of such extreme acuteness, that they exercise, excite, and sharpen even the brightest talents to a more sublime knowledge of divine objects, it is no wonder that the most profound writers join in one voice, *that this Scot, beyond all controversy, surpasses not only the contemporary theologians, but even the greatest of ancient or modern times, in the sublimity of his genius and the immensity of his learning.* This subtile doctor was the founder of the grand and most noble sect of the Scotists, which, solely guided by his doctrine, has so zealously taught,

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defended, amplified, and diffused it, that, being spread all over the world, it is regarded as the most illustrious of all. From this sect, like heroes from the Trojan horse, many princes of science have proceeded, whose labour in teaching has explained many difficulties, and whose industry in writing has so much adorned and enlarged theological learning, that no farther accession can be expected or desired."

It is unnecessary to add the other testimonies of cardinals and divines to be found in Wading's work; and it is more essential, in these days, to add, that Julius Cæsar Scaliger acknowledges, that it was in the perusal of John of Dunse that he acquired the subtlety of discussion which he displays. Nay Cardan, among the earliest of modern philosophers, and who, free from the yoke of Aristotle, displays an independent spirit of investigation, confers on our hero the high honour of classing him among his chosen twelve masters of profound and subtle sciences. As this morsel is one of the most interesting in his great work *De Subtilitate*, it is no digression (nor is digression foreign to our desultory design) to abstract it. *

1. Archimedes, writings and machines.

2. Ptolemy, astronomy and grand system of the world.

3. Aristotle, exact logic, natural history of animals, written with wonderful sagacity.

4. In this rank stand as equals Euclid, John of Dunse, and Suinshed, the English author of the *Calculator*, of which there are many editions in the early age of printing.

5. John of Dunse, called Scotus, says Cardan, from his country, whose learning only yields to his subtle genius.

6. Of the same island, he adds, that is, Great Britain, was Suinshed, the great calculator, who is said to have weeped in his old age, because he could not understand his own chapter *De Actione Mutua*, and whose solution has embarrassed succeeding ages. "Thus, under a wintry climate, has Britain produced two men of surprising talents."

7. Apollonius Pergæus, conic elements.

8. Archytas of Tarentum, mathematics.

9. Mahmud Ben Musa, algebra.

10. Alchindi, also an Arab.

11. Heber of Spain, astronomy.

12. Galen, medicine.

Such being the fame of our countryman, it is no wonder that even divine honours were accorded. For, though Dempster be a bad authority, yet he may surely be credited, when he repeats a respectable testimony, and in which he was liable to the instant contradiction of many living witnesses. He produces Gilbert Brown, abbot of Sweetheart, (a monastery of which there are considerable remains in a romantic situation under the granitic mountain of Criffel, near Dumfries,) as his informer, that at Dumfries John of Dunse was reputed a saint, and had his day and office in the ecclesiastical kalendar. It is well known, that many bishopricks, and even churches, had distinct rituals and observances.

But to proceed to our positive testimonies concerning the native place of our hero. They are candidly added by the friars of Mons in Hainault, in this edition of Wading's Life, originally published, as appears in his Annals of the Minors, Vol. III. under the years 1304, 1308. These additions (p. 137) shall be translated literally, that the reader may judge for himself.

"Some infer that the acute genius of Scotus was inborn. Father Ildephonsus Brisenus, (*in Appar.* § 2.) from Ferchius, (*Vita Scoti*, c. 20.) and the latter from Gilbert Brown, (*Hist. Eccles.*) relate, that 'Scotus occupied on a farm, and, though the son of a rich man, employed in keeping sheep, according to the custom of his country, that youth may not become vicious from idleness, was met by two Franciscan friars begging as usual for their monastery. Being favourably received by his father's hospitality, they began to instruct the boy by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer, as they found him ignorant of the principles of piety; and he was so apt a scholar as to repeat it at once. The friars, surprised at such docility, which they regarded as a prodigy, prevailed on the father, though the mother warmly and loudly opposed, to permit them to lead the boy to Dumfries, where he was soon after shorn as

* Lib. xvi.

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a novice, and presented to our holy father, St Francis; and some say that he then assumed his profession as a friar.' Such are the words of Brizenus."

"Nor must a wonderful circumstance be omitted, which, with Brizenus, we transcribe from Ferchius, (c. 5.) that we may obtain the greater credit. 'Hence it appears, that the Holy Virgin granted to Dunse innocence of life, modesty of manners, complete faith, continence, piety, and wisdom. That Paul might not be elated by great revelations, he suffered the blows of Satan; that the subtile doctor might not be inflated by the gifts of the mother of Christ, he was forced to suffer the tribulation of captivity, by a fierce enemy. Gold is tried by the furnace, and the just man by temptation. Edward I. King of England, from the length of his legs, called *Longs Kanks*, (Longshanks,) had cruelly invaded Scotland, leaving no monument of ancient majesty that he did not seize or destroy, leading to death, or to jail, the most noble and learned men of the country. Among them were twelve friars; and that he might experience the dreadful slaughter and bitter captivity of his country, John of Dunse suffered a miserable servitude;' thus imitating the apostle in the graces of God, and the chains he endured."

Being delivered, he studied and taught at Oxford about the year 1300, as appears from his own writings carefully adduced by Wading; and from the same authority, he was a professor at Paris in 1304, whence he was called to Cologne, where he died in 1308. The fables concerning his death are well refuted by Wading; but even these fables lead to an idea, that he was in the prime of life, but exhausted by vast studies. Supposing him about 40 years of age, he was born about 1268.

He may be regarded as the father of philosophical and theological learning in Scotland. An account of his life and labours would embrace the history of scholastic philosophy then in its *acme*, and might be rendered very interesting, as the history of the aberrations of the human mind is as curious as that of its exertions. But as his works fill several folio volumes, much skill in metaphysics would be required, as well as great patience and labour.

To return, (for the sole object of this little discussion is to prove, that Dunse was a native of Scotland,) some other points remain to be briefly considered. It is well known, that the word *Dunce*, immortalized by Pope's Dunciad, is derived from this celebrated writer; as a stupid student was ironically hailed as another Dunce. This popular joke is clearly preserved in the name of our Scottish village, while we defy all England and Ireland to produce a *Dunse*.

As to Gilbert Brown's ecclesiastic history, it perhaps only related to his Monastery of Sweetheart; and it is well known that printing being little known in Scotland till about 1580, many works remained in MS. and have thus unfortunately perished. But the events of Dunse's youth being totally unknown to English and Irish story and tradition, the presumption that he was a native of Scotland becomes very cogent, however the testimonies may be undervalued.

When Wading attempts to prove Dunse an Irishman, he says the ancient *Scotia* was Ireland, which is very true. But that appellation ceased in Great Britain about the middle of the eleventh century, and all over Europe by the end of the twelfth at farthest. Scotland, and the kings of Scotland, were not only known in Flanders, France, and Italy, by marriages with foreign princesses and ecclesiastic dispensations, but even in Hungary. Who can dream that a *Scotus* of the fourteenth century was not a native of Scotland? Paris and Cologne, which classed with Oxford among the first universities of Europe, the very shrines of learning and accuracy, could not in 1308 distinguish between a *Hibernus* and a *Scotus!* Impossible! Ridiculous!

It must be farther observed, that even when Dunse was born, surnames had become not uncommon. I have not Prynne by me, but in the roll of those of Scotland who paid a forced homage to Edward I. in 1298, there are many surnames. I believe there are even one or two *Dunses*. *Johannes de Duns Scotus* is the fixt denomination of our hero including his surname and nation, so that the claim of England is alike groundless.

Paris, Oct. 1817. J. P.

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ON MAKING BREAD FROM WOOD.

We may admit it as an axiom in political economy, that the population of a state will adapt itself to the means of subsistence. But, as the amount of these varies from the operation of a variety of circumstances, we should often be exposed to all the miseries of famine, if there were not causes compensating the natural effects of the constantly fluctuating supply of food. In years of plenty, the excessive increase of population, which should naturally follow, is checked by the waste, which arises from cheapness, and by the speculation of merchants who export the surplus, or store it to meet contingent demands. In years of scarcity, starvation is prevented by the economy in the use of food, which is the effect of its dearness, and by the same speculative spirit of merchants who now dispose of their stored surplus, and import grain and provisions from other countries. By these means the balance between the population and supply of food is preserved, in most years, without great inconvenience. But in extraordinary cases, where the quantity of food is altogether insufficient for the wants of the people, extraordinary means of supply must be resorted to, and of these the most obvious and most efficient is the using as food of articles which are at other times rejected, such as the flesh of animals not commonly eaten, the horse, rat, frog, &c. or the parts not commonly used as food, the liver, lungs, and brain of the larger animals, and the whole blood and fat; also vegetables, and parts of vegetables not in common use. Indeed, the parts of animals and vegetables consist chiefly of those elementary principles which are essentially nutritious; but, beside those articles which we reject from mere prejudice, some are not eaten because they are poisonous or unwholesome, such as the poisonous fish of the West Indies, and some kinds of shell-fish, all diseased animals, and many vegetables; or because they are disgusting and disagreeable when eaten in any quantity, such as the whale, and other coarse fishes, and strong oils and fats; or because the compactness of their aggregation prevents them from being dissolved or digested in the stomach. Of this last description are most kinds of wood and bark, and woody fibre in general; and, as these are produced in great abundance in some countries, where food is always scarce, and in sufficient quantity in almost every country; when threatened with famine, it becomes a problem of great importance to discover the means of rendering them alimentary, at least so far as to assist in supporting the people until the danger of famine is at an end.

This has been attempted by Professor Autenrieth of Tubingen in regard to wood, and with considerable success. He considered that two circumstances chiefly rendered wood unfit for food, the foreign matters always mixed with the woody fibre, and the compact aggregation of the fibre itself. The former was to be overcome by rejecting those woods which naturally contain most foreign matter, such as the fir, on account of its resin, and the oak on account of its astringency; and by removing every thing that water can dissolve. He, therefore, preferred for his experiments those woods which have little taste or smell, and chiefly used the birch and beech, although the latter is less fit for the purpose on account of its much greater compactness.

To render wood alimentary, it is necessary to reduce it to a state of extremely minute division, not merely into very fine fibres, but to a real powder. It also requires the repeated action of the heat of an oven, by which means it is not only better fitted for being ground, but probably also undergoes some internal change which renders it more digestible, as is evidently the case in regard to coffee. Wood prepared in this way acquires the smell and taste of corn flour. It, however, is never white, but always yellowish. It also agrees with corn flour in this, that it does not ferment without the addition of some leaven, and in this case sour leaven of corn flour is the best. With this it makes a perfectly uniform and spongy bread, like common brown bread, and when it is thoroughly baked, and has much crust, it has a much better taste of bread than what in times of scarcity is prepared of bran and husks of corn.

To make wood flour in perfection, the wood, after being thoroughly stripped of its bark, is to be sawed

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transversely into disks of about an inch in diameter. The saw-dust is to be preserved, and the disks to be beaten to fibres in a pounding-mill. The fibres and saw-dust, mixed together, are next to be deprived of every thing harsh and bitter which is soluble in water, by boiling them in a large quantity of water, where fuel is abundant, or by subjecting them for a longer time to the action of cold water, which is easily done by inclosing them in a strong sack, which they only half fill, and beating the sack with a stick, or treading it with the feet, in a rivulet of clear water. The whole is now to be completely dried, either in the sun or by fire, and repeatedly ground in a flour-mill, till it pass through the boulting cloth.

This ground wood is next to be baked into small flat cakes, with water rendered slightly mucilaginous, by the addition of some decoction of linseed, mallow stalks and leaves, lime-tree bark, or any other such substance. Professor Autenrieth prefers marsh-mallow roots, of which one ounce renders eighteen quarts of water sufficiently mucilaginous, and these serve to form four pounds and a half of wood flour into cakes. These cakes are to be baked until they are quite dry, and become of a brownish yellow colour on the surface. After this they are to be broken to pieces, and again ground repeatedly, until the flour pass through a fine boulting cloth; and upon the fineness of the flour does its fitness to make bread depend. The flour of a soft wood, such as birch, is sufficiently prepared by the process as described; but the flour of a hard wood, such as beech, requires the steps of baking and grinding to be repeated.

That the wood thus prepared is altered in its nature, and rendered soluble, is proved by the quantity of real starch that is obtained from it by the same process by which it is separated from wheat flour. If wood flour, tied up in fine linen, be long kneaded in a vessel of water, the water is rendered milky, and deposits slowly a quantity of starch, which, with boiling water, forms a thick, tough, trembling, tenacious jelly, like that of wheat starch; and it is only necessary to see this starch to be satisfied that the wood flour is soluble and nutritious. This starch cannot be ascribed to the mucilaginous matter added to the ground wood previous to its being baked, as the added mucilage does not amount to more than the one hundred and forty-fifth part of the wood, whereas the wood flour loses about half its weight by the separation of the starch. The residuum remaining in the linen seems to be woody fibres unchanged, which have not been ground sufficiently fine.

Professor Autenrieth next tried the nutritious effects of wood flour on animals; and for this purpose, after confining a young dog a whole day with only water, a gruel of indifferently-prepared wood flour, salt, and water, was set before him. At first he ate very little of it, and in the evening was very weak, having nearly fasted for twenty-four hours. During the night he had ate a good deal of his gruel, and was in the morning lively. He now got as much gruel as he could eat four times a-day; and in a few days he seemed to be quite reconciled to his new diet, and at the end of seven days was perfectly well, and even seemed to have grown. He was then hanged, one hour and a half after a full meal, to ascertain the fact of digestion by dissection; but it was scarcely begun, although a few lacteals were distinctly visible. Two pigs have been since fed upon it.

Professor Autenrieth and his family next tried it themselves, in the form of gruels or soup, dumplings and pancakes, all made with as little of any other ingredients as possible; and, although they ate these preparations to satiety, they found them palatable, and suffered no inconvenience from them. The addition of milk, on being fried with some fat, greatly improves the cookery of wood flour.

Wood flour does not ferment so readily as wheaten flour; but Professor Autenrieth found fifteen pounds of birch-wood flour, with three pounds of sour wheat leaven, and two pounds of wheat flour, mixed up with eight measures of new milk, yielded thirty-six pounds of very good bread. The best mode of preparing it was to mix up the five pounds of wheat leaven and flour, with a proportion of the wood flour and milk to a preparatory dough; let it stand for some hours in a moderately warm place to rise, and then to knead in thoroughly the rest of the wood flour and milk. This dough is rolled out into thin cakes,

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allowed to stand in a warm place to rise, for a longer time than wheat flour requires; and, lastly, to be put into the oven, and baked thoroughly.

Professor Autenrieth made the following experiment with this bread:—He ate a quarter of a pound of it with weak coffee to breakfast. The more bread he ate the rougher it became, and somewhat constringed the throat, but was not bitter. The last bit, which, on that account, he chewed little, was unpleasant, and afterwards his stomach was oppressed, and he was convinced that the continued use of wood bread alone would have injured him. But, at mid-day, his appetite had returned, and he ate of several kinds of soup made with this flour, with some other preparations of it, without any inconvenience. In the evening he ate another quarter of a pound of the bread, with some milk, without any dislike or oppression at his stomach. He slept well, and was next morning in his usual health.

From these experiments, it is obvious, that in cases of necessity wood may be made to furnish a considerable quantity of nourishment, but it is no less obvious, that the process is so troublesome and expensive, that it never can become an article of food, except when there is an absolute scarcity of provision. On such occasions, the labour is of very secondary importance; and, at any rate, cannot be so profitably applied as in procuring the means of sustenance.

In some districts of Norway, especially in Tryssild and the mountainous part of Oesterdale, bread is made of the bark of trees, and seems to be even less palatable than bread of wood flour. Its preparation is also difficult, but proceeds upon a different principle, as its nutritious property depends entirely upon the mucilage which exists in the bark, and, therefore, the bitterness and astringency cannot be removed, as in the case of wood, by the action of water. On the other hand, as nutritious matter exists ready developed in the bark, it is not necessary to grind it so very minutely to convert an otherwise indigestible substance into nourishment.

The very accurate observer, Von Buch,* has given the best account of the manner of preparing bark-bread. "When the young and vigorous fir-trees are felled, to the great injury of the woods, the tree is stripped of its bark for its whole length; the outer part is carefully peeled from the bark; the deeper interior covering is then shaved off, and nothing remains but the innermost rind, which is extremely soft and white. It is then hung up several days in the air to dry, and afterwards baked in an oven; it is next beat on wooden blocks, and then pounded as finely as possible in wooden vessels; but all this is not enough, the mass is yet to be carried to the mill and ground into coarse meal, like barley or oats. This meal is mixed up with *hexel*, with thrashed out ears, or with a few moss seeds and a bread of about an inch thickness is formed of this composition. Nature, with reluctance, receives the bitter and contracting food; and the boors endeavour to disguise the taste of it, by washing it down with water; but, in the beginning of the spring, after having lived on this bread a great part of winter, they become weak and relaxed, and they are incessantly tormented with an oppressive shooting and burning about the chest."—p. 87.

In another place, after having described the habits and diet of the Rein-deer Laplanders, he says, "A great part of the Swedish Laplanders in *Kemi Lappmark*, and especially in the *Församling* of *Enare*, live in quite a different manner. They live, for the most part, by fishing, and have but seldom a few rein-deer; on the other hand, they generally possess eight or ten sheep, but no cows. In summer they scarcely eat any thing but fish from the fresh water lakes, and drink, with great eagerness, the water in which the fish has been boiled. In winter they must put up with dried fish and with soups of water, fir bark, and rein-deer tallow. They peel off, in summer, the innermost bark of the fir, divide it in long strips, and hang them in their dwellings to dry for winter stores. When used, these strips of bark are minced in small pieces along with the rein-deer tallow, boiled together for several hours

* Travels through Norway and Lapland during the years 1806, 1807, and 1808. By Leopold Von Buch. Translated from the original German. By John Black. 4to. London, 1813.

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with water, till in consistency they form a thick broth, and then eaten. A little ewe milk, and a few mountain bramble berries, contribute very little to the improvement of this wretched diet."—p. 324.

Sept. 1817. M.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM THE MINISTERS OF PERTH, RESPECTING THE SURRENDER OF THAT TOWN TO MONTROSE'S ARMY, IN 1644.

THE extraordinary battle, or rather route, of Tippermuir, near Perth, took place on the 19th of May 1644, the Marquis of Montrose being general for the king, and the Lord Elcho for the Covenant. Montrose's army consisted of 2000 foot and 500 horse, partly Highlanders and partly Irish, while the force under Elcho amounted to 6600 cavalry and infantry. The Covenanters were disgracefully defeated in a single charge, 300 slain, chiefly in the pursuit, and many taken prisoners.—"Quorum alii præstito sacramento militari, victoris arma sequuti sunt: sed malâ fide, plerique enim omnes defecêre. Reliquos datâ, solemni modo, fide, nunquam in posterum contra regem ejusve duces militaturos libertati restituit."* In the conflict Montrose had only two of his men wounded.

Spalding, in his *naïve* manner, gives the following account of the Marquis's motions, previous to the battle of Tippermuir, and of the affair itself. It may be remarked, that he errs respecting the death of Lord Kilpont, who was not assassinated during the battle, but in a subsequent tumult of the Highlanders and Irish.

"Ye heard before of M'Donald's taking service with Montrose, his landing and progress with the Irishes, and what order the estates took in setting forth proclamations. As M'Donald marched in through Badenoch, M'Donald of Keppach and his forces came willingly unto him, with diverse others; the tutor of Struan, with his friends and followers, at his coming to Athol, came unto him; and here likewise James Marquis of Montrose trysted with this M'Donald and Irishes. He came secretly from England, accompanied only with Crowner Hay and Crowner Sibbald, as was said; and, clad in coat and trews, upon his foot he came to Athol, where divers gentlemen of that country met him, especially the Stuarts of Athol, and offered their service to him. The Lord Kilpont came there, with some friends. This mighty Marquis of Montrose, clad now with the king's commission and authority, calling now to mind the manifold injuries and oppressions done to him by the estates, especially by Argyle, since the beginning of this covenant, and resolving to revenge the king's quarrel and his own both, against the king's rebels and his mortal enemies, to the utmost of his power, (which, indeed, he did after a miraculous manner in several battles, as ye shall hear, to the great fear and terrour of all Scotland,) he marches from Athol above St Johnston. The general committee of estates at Edinburgh, hearing of the Irish progress, hastily raises out of the shires of Fife, Perth, and Angus, an army of about 6000 foot and 800 horse, with expert officers and commanders, ammunition, powder, ball, and four field pieces, to go upon thir Irishes. They were well in order both horse and foot; they march forward, and upon Sunday the 1st of September both parties meet upon a muir four miles bewest St Johnston, called Tibbermuir; but the lieutenant foresaid, Montrose, routed and defeated their haill forces with great slaughter, killed 1300, some say 1500, of their men, and took 800 prisoners, whom they made to serve in their wars. They gat plenty of arms, powder, ball, their cannon, and some horse, bag and baggage, with little loss for themselves. Lieutenant Montrose atchieved the victory with few men, not exceeding 3000 foot, with few or no horsemen at all, and with loss of some, but not many, men, and none of note except the Lord Kilpont, who was by one of his own men suddenly and unhappily slain, to the lieutenant's grief. After this conflict, he upon the morn, being Monday the 2d of September, takes in the burgh of St Johnston, with little debate, and small blood. They plunder the town for goods, monies, arms, ammunition, and such of their men as they thought meet to serve in the wars, with all the horse they could get, whereof this lieutenant was scarce, as I have said."

* Rer. Montisros. Cap. v.

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The defeat of the Covenanters by Montrose was so complete and terrific, that, after a lapse of 80 years, the remembrance of it could still appal the courage of the Presbyterian party; upon the breaking out of the insurrection in the year 1715, the Earl of Rothes, Sheriff and Lord Lieutenant of the county of Fife, issued an order "for all the fencible men of the countie, to meet him at a place called Cashmoor; the gentlemen took no notice of his orders, nor did the commons, except those whom the ministers forced to goe to the place of rendezvous, to the number of 1500 men, being all that their utmost diligence could perform; but those of that countie, having been taught by their experience, that it is not good meddling with edge tools, especiallie in the hands of Highlandmen, were very averse from taking armes. No sooner they reflected on the place of rendezvous, Cashmoor, than Tippermoor was called to mind; a place not far from thence where Montrose had routed them, when, under the command of my great grand uncle, the Earl of Wemyss, then generall of God's armie: in a word, the unlucky choice of a place called *Moor*, appeared ominous; and that, with the flying report of the Highlandmen having made themselves masters of Perth, made them throw down their armes and run, notwithstanding the trouble that Rothes and the ministers gave themselves to stop them."*

The surrender of Perth to the Marquis of Montrose was deemed, by the great body of the Covenanters, an act of cowardice or treachery, or both. The following apologetical paper (which is without a date, and taken from the Wodrow collection of MSS. in the Advocates' Library of Edinburgh) was given in, either to the Parliament or the Committee of Estates, † by Messrs John Robertson and George Halyburton, ministers of Perth, the latter of whom, in spite of all the covenanting fervour displayed in this curious document, deserted his party at the restoration, and was consecrated bishop of Dunkeld. He is thus characterized by Kirkton: "Mr George Haliburton for Dunkeld, was a man of utterance, but who had made more changes than old infamous Eccebolius, and was never thought sincere in any, he seemed to be so ingenious, and never was; you may guess what savour was in that salt."* We are told, in the Memoirs of the Reverend Mr Thomas Halyburton, that the bishop, "who proved a cruel persecutor of his former friends, was scarce well warm in his nest, when the Lord smote him with sore sickness, of which he died, and went to his place."

Reasons for the Surrender of Perth.

If Perth be blamed for anie thing, it must be either for that they did render at all, or, 2. because the termes of rendering were not honest and honorable, or, 3lie, because the carriage of the inhabitants was bad after the entrie of the enemie. As for the first, we could not but render upon thir grounds: 1. The strength of the toune was not in their own walls or inhabitants, but in the armie of friends that were in the fields, wch being shamefullie beat and fullie routed, did so exanimate and dishearten the poore inhabitants that they could not exerce the verie naturall act of moving, let be of resolut reason. For that miserable flight was, for its suddantie and unexpectedness, as the clapp of judgment; and then, 2. a reason of great amazement. For they shall be confounded that trust in the arme of flesh. The trust of the inhabitants was as the trust of their friends,—too too great, yea the meane was more looked to than the principall efficient cause, wch selfe trust God punished justlie, both in the one and the other. Secondlie, Our men were verie few, not extending to sex score. For we had in the fields a companie of musquetiers, (under Captaine Grant, who was there killed,) which, for the most part, fled, suspecting that the toune should become a prey to the enemie's crueltie. Others of the toune, confident of the victorie, went out to the moore careleslie, and so, in the flight, by running, were made uselesse. A third part of the toune timorouslie fled at the first report of the enemie's victorie. Could the toune trust it selfe to the defence of so few,

* MS. Memoirs of Lord St Clair.

† Or perhaps to the General Assembly of the Church; for no mention of it occurs in the Books of the Committee of Estates, preserved in the Register House.

* Kirk. Hist. p. 136.

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and so few disheartened men? Thirdlie, Our friends in Fyfe and Stratherne that came unto us, they were either unwilling or unable to assist us. Their unwillingnes kythed in this, that all, when they came in at the ports, either went to the boats or to houses, out of wch no entreatie could draw them. The trueth of this is proven; for the provest of the town, with a minister going alongst the streets, with a trumpet three tymes, could not, of inhabitants and friends both, make up so many as to guard three ports, let be five, forby all the walls and posts of the toune. Whereas it is said, or may be said, that the Fife men offered to assist us. Its trueth there were seen 12 or thereabout armlesse men, and some of them drunk, come to the provest in the porch of the kirk offering themselves to serve. But such a few number could not be trusted to, so many having feared the enemie's forces before and fled. 2. They were unable who came in, for first they were all fore-fainted and bursted with running, insomuch that nine or ten dyed that night in toune without any wound. 3. An overwhelming feare did take them, that did absolutelie disinable them from resistence of such a cruell enemie. Their feare kythed in this, that multitudes breaking up cellars did cast themselves down there, expecting the enemies approach. The provest came in to one house amongst many, where there were a number lying panting, and desired them to rise for their own defence. They answered, their hearts were away, they would fight no more although they should be killed. And then, althogh they had been both willing and stout, yet they were unable to resist, for they had casten all their armes from them be the way, and wee in the towne had none to spare. 4. In toune we had no ammunition, for Dundie refused them, and that which was got out of Cowper was for the most part had out in carts to the Moore. 5. Our enemies that before the fight were naked, weaponles, amunitionles, and cannonles men, and so unable to have laid seige to the towne, by the flight of our friends, were clothed, got aboundance of armes, and great plenty of ammunition, with 6 piece of canon. So our friends disarming us, and arming our enemies, enabled them, and disabled us. 6. If our friends had not come and fled at our ports and forsaken us, we would, with the assistance of honest men about, defended ourselves. The Master of Balmerino and the Laird of Moncrieff can witnes the tounes resolution the Friday before the fight, when we were alone, for then we would expected helpe from Fyfe, and Angus, and Stratherne in 24 hours, to have raised the seige. But after the fight and flight we were out of all hopes. For, on the north, Athole was an enemie, on the east, Angus, on the report of the defeat, disbanded, or at least a few of them fled to Dundie. For Fife, they were so disbanded that there was little hope of a suddaine levie. For my Lord Marques of Argyle we knew not if he was come from the Highlands or not. And so this proved. For the first friends that we saw was the elevent day after the dismall fight. If so few faint hearted men without meat, drink, (of wch the toun was very scarce,) could have stood so long against so many cruell desperat enemies, let the reasonable judge. 7. The hounds of hell were drawen up before our ports newlie deeply bathed in blood, routed with hideous cryes for more, and in the meane time there abode not one gentleman of Fife to give us counsell, save one who is an uselesse member amongst themselves at home, and, consequently, could not be but uselesse to us. Neither a gentleman of the committee of our owne shire, save Balhousie; so exanimate with fear, and destitute of counsell, wee could not stand out.

After the sight and serious consideration of thir reasons, and of the miserable consequents of outstanding, being so unable, as, namely, the rasing of the citie, the losse of all our meanes, and the cruell massacring of our own persons, wee began to thincke upon a surrender of the citie, if in anie termes we could have our consciences and our covenants preserved entire. If any wayes the enemie would meddle with these, the ministers gave counsell to lose life and all, wch was accorded to by all the toun counsell, as may appear be the town's letter of answer to Montrose his demand.

So to the next point. Being, by strength of reason, and extreame necessitie, urged to render, wee thought on articles to propone, w^ch^, not being

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satisfied, we all resolved to die before wee gave over. In the meane time, a letter came from Montrose, desiring us to joine in service to his Matie. Wee answered, If, by joining in service, he meant all that civill obedience that did tye our free subjects to be performed, we would joine w^t^ all good subjects; but if, by joining, he meant to encroach on our consciences, and to make us break any point of our covenants, wee would not joine w^t^ him nor any, lest by so doing God should be highlier provoked, and moved to bring down a heavier judgment then he had done that day on us. The articles proponed with the answer wer thir five, 1. That our toune and parish should not be urged with any thing against their conscience, especially against the two covenants. 2. That the town should not be plundered or reifled, neither the adjacent landward. 3. That in all things we should be used as free subjects, and so that none of our men should be pressed. 4. That no Irishes should get entrie or passage through our toun. 5. That all our good friends and neighbors in toune should have a passe safelie to go to their own homes. The honestie of thir articles may be proven be the first article, the honorablenes of them be the rest. Its honestie, to adhere to our covenant; and honor, (being not able to do otherwise,) to keep our selves and friends free of skaith, and give our enemie no full entrie. Look what hath been called honest and honourable capitulations in the like cases of rendring abroad, and wee in thir articles shall not be found farre short of them.

As for the third point, the gesture and carringe of the town towards the enemie. If by the toune be meaned the ministers, they are heere, let them be tried. If by the toune be meant the magistrats, they did show no countenance either welcomming them, eating or drinking with them. If by the toun be meaned the bodie, welcomes were so farre, that we wish to God the voice of such joy be never heard on the streets of Edinburgh; wee may boldlie say, in the face of any will say the contrarie, that, consider the number, and our weeping was as great as lamentings of Achor's valley. Wee will be bold to say, it was the saddest day that ever the town did see; and that enemie the saddest sight, nay it was to them as the verie sight of the executioner on the scaffold. If by the toune be meaned particular men, we can not be answerable for evrie particular man's carriage. If any can be found, let these be tryed and punished for being so unnaturall. The hearts of none we know, but the outward carriage of all our toune was humble, demisse, sadd, sorrowfull, verie farre from the expressions of any joy.

Two things are proponed to be considered: 1. Whether the rendring of the field or the town was most disgracefull and prejudiciall to the cause and countrie. The toune was rendred, not being able, for the former reasons, to stand out, upon honest and honourable capitulations.

The field was rendred, having two to one, of wch many horse, ane [*and*] good cannon, by a shamefull groundles tergiversation. 2. The toun's rendring, being unable to stand out, saved the effusion of much blood; for, being unable, and yet stand out, wee should have bin accessarie to our own massacre; but the field's render was the cause of much blood, ten only being killed standing, and all the rest fleeing, so that being able to stand, and yet fled, they seeme to be accessarie to much blood they might have saved. 3. The toun's rendring was the very immediat necessar effect of the field's rendring; let any man having considered this inferre the conclusion.

Againe, let the events of rendring and not rendring the toun be compard, and see wch should have bin most hurtfull to the cause and countrie. By rendring (not being able to stand) wee keeped our cause and covenant unviolat. Wee keeped our citie,—we keeped our lives,—and our means for manteenance of the cause and countrie in time coming. By not standing, (being so unable,) the countrie had losed a citie, a number of poore souls, men, women, and babes, with all their fortunes and meanes. Was it not better then to have rendred with such honestie, as to have resisted with such certaintie of danger.

They who would have had us in Perth, offer our selves a bloodie sacrifice for our countrie, and with more honest terms could save our selves for our countrie's service; and, in the

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meanetime, had not the contrair [courage?] for their countrie to withstand the force of sworne enemies themselves, to say no more they are to uncharitablie cruell against us, and too partiallie lovers of themselves.

As for that the toune held in their friends to be captived, its true for a little while they were detained; but how soone we saw it impossible to stand out, we let all our boats passe, and Fife men, with other men, so throngd, that sindrie were drowned, both horse and foot. Our boats passed that night till elleven houres at evening. Our port we could not open, neither could they passe. For the cruell doggs were even hard at the Inch, and had a companie betwixt that and the bridge waiting the massacre of such as we should let out. Its apparant if we should let out the Fyfe men, and they beene killed betweene our towne and the bridge, that they should have said in Fife that wee would not harbour them, but chase them out to the slaughter. God judge us according to the charitie some of us shew to them.

HISTORICAL NOTICES OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST GILES, EDINBURGH, WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR ITS EXTERIOR DECORATION.

* Storys to rede ar delitabill,
Suppose that thai be nocht bot fabill;
Than suld storys that suthfast wer,
And thai war said on gud maner,
Hawe doubill plesance in heryng.
The fyrst plesance is the carpyng,
And the tother the suthfastnes,
That schewys the thing rycht as it wes.
And suth thyngis that ar likand
Till mannys heryng ar plesand;
Tharfor I wald fayne set my will,
Giff my wyt mycht suffice thartill,
To put in wryt a suthfast story,
That it lest ay furth in memory."

BARBOUR (MS.)

MR EDITOR,

AMONG the monuments of Gothic architecture which at this day abound in Great Britain, there are few which come oftener under *our* review, or attract attention more, than the edifice erected in this city, and dedicated to St Giles. Every attempt to ascertain with accuracy the period of its foundation has hitherto failed. *Simeon of Durham* has been quoted, as mentioning its existence in 854, in reckoning the churches and towns subject to the bishopprick of Lindisfarn, or Holy Island. But this is a mistake; the passage alluded to mentions no church; though it may be inferred that one then existed.—This, however, was not St Giles, which cannot be attributed to an earlier period than the 12th century. St Cuthbert's was the *only* existing church near Edinburgh at that time; and Maitland mentions, that David I. in the year 1128, gave this church "to the abbot and canons of Holyroodhouse." St Giles's Church is also mentioned in 1359 by Maitland. From this time till 1466 it was merely a parish church, (Hay in his MS. says till 1483,) when a charter was procured from James III. by the magistrates for its erection into a collegiate church.

In 1385, the town and suburbs of Edinburgh were destroyed by Richard II. and the church of St Giles was then burnt. * It had been at an early period under the patronage of the Abbot and Canons of Dunfermline; and, came afterwards under that of the Magistrates and Town-Council of Edinburgh, who, in the year 1563, *for the first time*, had a seat in the New Church erected "for their use and the credit of the city."

David II., by a royal charter dated 15th December 1359, granted certain lands to the parish church of St Giles. In 1380 a contract was made between the Provost of Edinburgh and certain masons, to vault a part of the church; and, in 1387, † a very considerable addition was contracted to be made to it, consisting of "fyve Chappells on the south side, fra the west Gavyl, lyand

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* It was in St Giles's Church that the Scottish barons met in 1384, and resolved on a war with England, the result of which was the burning of the church with the greater part of the town in the following year. In R. A. Hay's MS. (Advocates' Library) it is said, "Anno 1385, Rex Angliae voraci flamma ecclesiam Sancti Ægidii consumpsit, cum villa de Edinburgh," &c. &c. and refers to Boeth. lib. 16, fol. 343; Lesl. lib. 7, p. 250.

Lesley's words are, "Richardus Angliæ Rex, incursione in Scotiam, cum multis militum copiis facta, Edinburgum, monasteriis undique direptis, ab incolis desertum cepit: atque (ut odii in homines, sic impietatis in Deum monumentum ibi defigeret sempiternum) *S. Ægidii templum* saevissimo absumpsit incendio," &c.

† Maitland, p. 270.

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and rynan doun Est, on the grate Pylar of the Stepyl, voutyt on the sam Maner by the masounys, as the vout aboyve Sanct Steviny's auter standand, on the north syde of the Parys auter of the abbay of the Haly-rude Houss."* Corresponding to these chapels, there appear to have been also erected five chapels on the northern side of the cathedral; but the date of their erection has not been ascertained. The indenture dated 1387, with the references in the Chamberlayne's accounts about this time, shew, that to this period the present building is to be assigned. And it would be curious to ascertain what portions of it formed the church at that time. No part of it can be so late as the beginning of the 16th century, as Maitland infers from the notices in the council register.

The length of this cathedral outside is understood to be 206 feet; at the west end its breadth is 110 feet; at the east 76 feet; and at the transept 129 feet. The height of the steeple is 155½ feet, or, as Arnot states it, 161 feet. *

The sacred architecture of the Anglo-Normans did not differ much in its style and manner from that of the Anglo-Saxons; their churches being in general plain, low, massive, and dark; the arches, both of the doors and windows, *semicircular*, with few or no ornaments. † By degrees, through much practice, our architects, *who were all monks or clergymen*, improved in their taste and skill, and ventured to form plans of more noble, light, and elevated structures, with a great variety of ornaments, which led to that bold, magnificent style of building, commonly, though perhaps not very properly, called *the Latter Gothic*. It is not improbable, that our monkish architects were assisted in attaining this style of building by models from foreign countries, or by instructions from such of their own number as had visited Italy, France, Spain, or the East. But, without entering into uncertain disputes about the origin of this style of architecture, it is sufficient to observe, that it began to appear in England in the reign of Henry II., and was distinguished from the more ancient Gothic by the following marks: The walls were much higher, though not so thick, and supported on the outside by buttresses; the doors and windows were wider and loftier; and the arches of both were no longer semicircular, but *pointed*, and were sometimes ornamented with clusters

* Before this period, several altars and chaplanries appear to have been founded within this church by private donations from individuals, and so early as the year 1365, King David II. ratifies a donation made by William Hare, burgess of Edinburgh: "Deo et altari beate Marie Virginis in ecclesia *Sancti Egidii* de Edinburgh, de illa terra jacente, &c. in vico boreali dicti burgi," &c. * Shortly after its destruction by fire, in 1385, the church was rebuilt, and in the different accounts of the Great Chamberlain of Scotland, rendered at Exchequer between the years 1390 and 1413, there are various entries of sums paid by grant from the King towards defraying the expence of rebuilding the fabric, of which the following may serve as specimens. In the account for 1391, after entering the various sums with which he charged himself, there is this clause:—"Item, Idem (Camerarius) non onerat se de xxxix li. receptis per exitus Camerarie per tempus computi preter exitus Curie Camerarie tente infra villam de Edinburgh, que conceduntur per Regem, *ad fabricam ecclesie ejusdem*." In the account for 1410, there is a similar entry: "Et non onerat se de exitibus Itineris Camerarie tenti infra burgum de Edinburgh, in anno hono, quia totum commodum inde proveniens preter expensas Camerarie tempore itineris datum fuit per Dominum Gubernatorem Regni, *fabrice ecclesie parochialis burgi de Edinburgh*." And in the account for 1412, the Chamberlain exonerates himself with the following sum: "Item, Idem computat per solutionem factam *fabrice ecclesie Sancti Egidii* de Edinburgh, ex donatione Domini Gubernatoris de exitibus unius Itineris Camerarie tenti apud Edinburgh, infra hoc computum xxvi li. xiii s. iiij d."

* Registrum Magni Sigilli, p. 54.

* Birrel, in his Diary, p. 47, mentions the following curious exploit: "The 10 of Julii 1598, ane man, some callit him ane jugler, playit sic souple tricks upon ane tow, q^ch was fastenit betwix the tope of St Geill's Kirk steiple, and ane staire beneathe the Crosse, callit Josias Close Heid, the lyk was never sene in yis countrie, as he zaid doune the tow, and playit sa mony paries on it."

† Dr Ducarel's Anglo-Norman Antiquities, p. 102, &c. Strutt's Manners, &c. of England, v. I. p. 102. Bentham's Hist. Ely. Pref. Grose's Antiquities of England, pref. p. 63, &c.

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of pillars on each side, and great variety of carvings; the larger windows had mullions of stone for ornament, and for the conveniency of fixing the glass; the pillars that supported the roof were lofty and slender, and frequently surrounded with small pillars, that made them appear like a cluster; the arches of the roof, like those of the doors and windows, were pointed; the roof was covered with lead, and the fabric ornamented on the top at each end with pinnacles, and with a tower over the middle of the cross, on which very lofty spires of wood and stone were frequently erected.*

The term *Gothic* always associates with it notions of stupidity, ignorance, and barbarism, and seems *peculiarly ill applied* to a style of architecture which exhibits so much ingenuity and skill. Gibbon tells us, that, in A. D. 250, the Emperor Decius was *first* summoned to the banks of the Danube by the invasion of the GOTHS; and that powerful people remained masters of that country, and of Italy, till the year 553, when they were overcome by *Narses*, the Emperor Justinian's general. But it was not *later* than between the 12th and 16th centuries that Gothic architecture (so named) flourished, and was found in cathedrals, and many other stately edifices, throughout several countries of Europe; and nowhere are there such fine examples to be discovered as at this day exist in Britain.

The application of the term *Gothic*, therefore, to such buildings, is, in point of taste and truth at least, *doubtful*, and to most persons it appears, as indeed it does to me, absolutely absurd.

Now that the † Luckenbooths have been safely carted to Leith Wynd, (would it had been done some dozen years ago!) and the Tolbooth (to the unutterable delight of the inhabitants) is journeying quickly to Fettes' Row, there to be transformed into common sewers and drains, the irregular and grim visage of the Cathedral has been in a great measure unmasked. There yet remain, however, the vile booths, with their still more execrable chimneys, to disfigure the south side of the Cathedral in the Parliament Close; but, Whitsuntide will come anon, and the existence of these aged deformities will be no more.

These changes have now rendered it necessary to embellish the exterior of the venerable Cathedral of St Giles; but as it may yet be some considerable time, Mr Editor, ere the final arrangements are completed, I purpose at present, with your permission, to submit to your readers a few remarks on this interesting subject, which I hope will be acceptable to them, and perhaps prove useful to the directors of our public works. These observations may probably induce our municipal rulers to contemplate the advantages of studying that cardinal virtue, PRUDENCE,* without which, as a celebrated philosopher once said, "*Knowledge becomes useless, wit ridiculous, and genius contemptible.*"

On this Cathedral it is quite practicable, and, we believe, at a moderate expence withal, to make most interesting and attractive alterations.

The first object is unquestionably *economy* in conducting the whole operations. The next thing of importance is an accurate investigation of the features of the Cathedral itself, whereby the period or periods of its erection, and the precise *character* of its architecture, may be nearly ascertained, and thus the judgment guided in drawing suitable plans. This building was not erected when the rich and florid description of the Gothic obtained, and care ought therefore to be had, *not* to produce plans which would only tend to throw the whole out of *keeping*. A melancholy instance of

* Sir Christ. Wren's Parentalia, p. 298. Bentham's Hist. Ely. Pref. Grose's Antiquities, Pref. p. 70.

† As the etymology of this word is not generally known, we shall quote Maitland's account of it: "The Scottish commerce formerly extended no farther than to France and the Low Countries; from the latter we got *woollen-cloth*, by the Flemings called *Laken*, the sellers whereof occupying the *Booth-raw*, that name was forced to give way to *Laken-booths*." A name which, the same author correctly predicted, would continue to be borne by these buildings, which, in 1753, he described as being "*rotten, noisome*, and *offensive*."

* Lack of judgment, and want of attention to this virtue, have been severely felt by every person of sound taste in this city, in the melancholy case of St George's Church; where a disgusting substitute has been placed at a vastly *greater* expence than the magnificent church in the *original* plan of Adam could have been erected for.

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this may be discovered in the new County-buildings lately erected here, where the ponderous entablature of the edifice suits so badly with the starved representation of that feature in the one adjoining—indeed, they mutually destroy each other. It is admitted, that the architect found some authority in Stuart's Athens (Temple of Erechtheus) for the *decorations* of the county-buildings; but the Greeks knew better than some of us in *modern Athens*, how to adapt one edifice to another, and how to indulge in variety without injuring the general effect of the whole. *

The mode I would recommend to secure the best chance of success in obtaining a plan for the Cathedral is as follows, viz. Let the measurement of the building, as it now stands, be accurately taken, together with the elevations of the four sides, and perhaps a longitudinal and transverse section of the building, and let these be engraved merely in *outline*. Let a set of these impressions be sent to such artists as Mr Wyatt, Mr Wilkins, and Mr Smirke, of London, and *to that most accomplished scholar in Gothic architecture*, Mr Blore, and request of these gentlemen to furnish plans for the alteration of the building in question. Impressions should also be sent to Mr Burn and to Mr Elliot of this city, (for "in the multitude of counsellors there is safety,") and, having procured and *paid* for the ideas of all these gentlemen on this very important subject, let the whole be submitted to the most competent judges of which this city can boast, (a greater number of whom will be found, than "is dreamt of in your philosophy,") and by their decision let the choice of the plan be determined.

We shall write nothing at present about that vile interpolation, the Police-office, with its *cabinet d'aisance* in front, and "the deep damnation" incurred by placing it under the hallowed roof of the Cathedral; because, from good authority, we know that it is soon to be removed—and "*'twere well 'twere done quickly.*"

In forwarding these projected and desirable repairs on this Cathedral, it is very likely that if the matter be conducted with *prudence*, some pecuniary assistance towards defraying the expence would be readily authorised by the Honourable the Barons of Exchequer. The Cathedrals at Dunblane and Dunkeld, the chapel at Holyrood, and other edifices, have undergone considerable repairs at the sight of the Honourable Barons, and, if my information be correct, which I doubt not, they recommended public aid. Good reasons doubtless existed to induce these repairs *thus* to be defrayed; but there appear *far stronger grounds* for prompting these judges to afford the necessary aid in the repair of our metropolitan Cathedral. There the representative of majesty itself yearly holds a place. In this Cathedral the Barons have a seat appropriated exclusively to their use. The Lords of Council and Session likewise attend divine service under the same roof; and in this church is the original seat of the magistrates of the city.

The Cathedral of St Giles is certainly capable of being formed into one of the most attractive edifices of this city,—but, again and again, we state, that every thing depends on the judicious selection of the plan for altering and improving the building. I shall now take leave of this subject for the present, in the hope, that before any thing conclusive is determined on, every bearing of the case will be carefully considered. May our public officers weigh this matter deeply; and, lest the adage shall have escaped their recollection, may I just be permitted to whisper, *Qu'il n'y a pas quelquefois moins d'habilité à sçavoir profiter d'un bon conseil, qu'à se bien conseiller soi même.*

B.

* Notwithstanding the assertion of our worthy Sheriff, (to whose exertions in promoting the many great improvements now in progress, we are so very much indebted,) "that not a line of this building was without its authority;" we apprehend that the architect will have some cudgelling of his brains, ere he can produce *authority* for the manner in which he has introduced and squeezed the columns of the northern front, betwixt the lumpish and unmeaning Antæ, which he has thought proper to place there, in positive defiance of simplicity, and without the slightest appearance of utility. Certain we are, that the Erechtheum (from which he has taken *the proportions of the columns*, &c.) can furnish no authority for so doing.

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ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGAN INTO THE SERVICE OF THE SCOTTISH CHURCH.

MR EDITOR,

The delight which the clergy of Edinburgh seem to take in improving church-music, while it is exceedingly creditable to their taste and good sense, leads to a hope that they will at length sanction the introduction of the organ into our church service. The obstacles which have hitherto opposed this appear now to be reduced to a very small number. In former times, the Scottish Presbyterian ministers opposed instrumental music, for no other reason than because it was used by the Roman and Lutheran churches. More lately, when their own prejudices began to give way, the opposition was continued out of respect to the prejudices of the people; and, at this day, some difficulty may be found in any attempt to eradicate what was sown with so much care, and nourished until the root became too mighty to be moved. But the sturdiest oak at last yields to age; and time effects, without effort, what baffles the strength and ingenuity of man. We have had the good fortune to live to see the mighty stem of prejudice begin to decay, and we may hope soon to see the mouldering of the root.

An argument which I lately heard stated against the use of the organ, and which seems to be the last that is likely to have any weight with the strict Presbyterians, deserves, in my opinion, some more particular notice, than any of the foolish unmeaning cant which, in past times, was found sufficient to keep prejudice alive. It has been stated, that, when the human frame is so constituted as to derive pleasure from music, the gratification of the ear becomes more important than the duty to that Being to whom praises are sung. I must confess that, at first, this argument felt somewhat weighty; and I was rather at a loss how to answer it, although I was at once satisfied that it could be answered. It appears to me that much, if not the whole, of its force may be neutralized, and perhaps overcome, by attempting to resolve these simple questions, Are we to praise God in a manner agreeable or disagreeable to ourselves? and, Are we to believe that the Supreme Being is better pleased with what we dislike than with what is gratifying to us?

The clergy of Edinburgh, and by far the greater number of the whole church, have distinctly allowed that it is proper to sing psalms *in parts*; and some of themselves are known to bear their parts extremely well. The object of the Institution for Sacred Music, and of all the subordinate psalm-singing societies, is to teach singing in parts. Now, this is undeniably for the gratification of our own ears, and a clear admission that we believe that which gratifies ourselves to be agreeable to Almighty God. Now, I would ask, Is there not as much risk, if not more, of the attention being called away from the object of devotion, by the care which is requisite to keep the voice in tune, (in whatever part it may be adapted to,) as in going along with the heavenly sounds of an organ? In the care which the clergy of all parties and persuasions have of late bestowed on the improvement of psalm-singing, there is a clear admission that we ought to sing in tune, in time, and in parts; or, in other words, in a manner *agreeable to ourselves*. It follows, of course, that the admission must extend to the belief that the Supreme Being is best pleased when we sing according to those laws which *he has himself ordained for sound*. He has also so constituted us, that we are offended when any of those laws are broken.

I believe that it is very generally felt, by all who are devout, and who have a musical ear, that their devotion is powerfully roused by the accompaniment of an organ. I humbly conceive that such is human nature, as to justify a parallel between worship and manual labour. The mind and the body are in such close connection, that when the one is pleased the other is also pleased, and when the one is depressed and languid, the other feels oppressed. Some farmers in your vicinity take advantage of this fact; and it is easily observed, that the poor Highland reapers work more cheerily to the accompaniment of a bagpipe than when they are left to think on the distance they have travelled to earn their food, and a scanty pittance to maintain them on their dreary journey homewards. How lustily do boatmen row, when the ca-

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dence of a song regulates their strokes! How steadily the ploughboy, and his horses too, keep on a measured pace when he whistles! So I maintain it is with worship. The earnestness with which a psalm is sung when accompanied, far outstrips the languor and harshness of voices, each voice pitching its own key, and drawling out its tone in discord, to the often untuned voice of an unlearned precentor. How dull and sleepy a congregation becomes, when a sermon, however well composed, is delivered in a voice neither melodious nor impressive! How eagerly it is listened to when the intonation and emphases are skilfully and agreeably employed upon language properly adapted to the organs of pronunciation!

Every one is offended when a voice in church is out of time or tune; and this so frequently happened, that the clergy themselves were sensible that some remedy was necessary; and, accordingly, to be able to teach church music, is a qualification commonly required in parish schoolmasters. But it has never been stated as a reason for improving church music, that the improvement would be agreeable to the object of worship. The reason was, undeniably, that it was necessary to remove what was offensive to ourselves, and to substitute what was agreeable. How very short the next step is need not be demonstrated. To call in the aid of an organ, to direct our voices, and to add force and solemnity to the sound of the praise which we offer, cannot be less pleasing to our Maker than were the sounds of the harp, the dulcimer, the sacbut, psaltery, cymbals, &c. which his chosen people employed in their devotions.

It is no unfrequent argument in the pulpit, "You pay respect to the great men of the earth; how much more ought you to pay respect and give honour to Him, who is greater than the greatest?" If, when we entertain a great personage, we offer to him every thing which can gratify sense, why should we not add to the power of our voices the finest artificial sounds that can be produced, when we offer homage to Him on whom we all depend? Such sounds gratify no gross sense: they soothe and elevate the soul. We have ceased to think that the Almighty can be pleased with the fat of oxen and the blood of lambs; and mankind have now reached that eminence on the mountain of knowledge, from whence they look down with pity on the ignorance of man while in that state which required much ceremony to impress on him the awfulness of heavenly majesty. But still we consider melody as acceptable; and we now universally admit that harmony is proper. If an organ be objected to, because it is artificial, the same objection ought to have excluded harmony, which is also artificial. If harmony adds force and agreeableness to the voices of a congregation, the force and agreeableness are vastly increased by the accompaniment of an organ; and surely, if improvement be sought for at all, there can be neither reason nor sense in fixing a limit to it. The more agreeable church service can be made, the more will men be attracted, and the more earnestly will they perform it. Nay, I maintain, that, if a man can be attracted into a church by no other wish than to hear an organ, a most important object is gained; for, if a sinner be once tempted to behold the good assembled and joining in devotion, his heart may be turned, and he may repent. Can there be any thing bad in what may produce such an effect as to draw the heart of a sinner towards the seat of mercy and forgiveness?

The performance of voluntaries, in the English service, has been objected to, and, I am disposed to think, justly. Lovers of music are apt to be employed, during the performance of such pieces, in judging of the merits of the composition, of the skill of the organist, and of the power and other qualities of the instrument. I must acknowledge, however, that I have heard voluntaries of a character which powerfully impressed on me a feeling of deep solemnity; and an organist of judgment may, unquestionably, second the preacher in a very effectual manner. On the whole, however, I am against voluntaries, and every thing in which the congregation does not join.

I will not occupy your pages, nor the attention of your readers, longer at present. There may be objections to the introduction of the organ of which I am ignorant, and which I should be happy to see fairly and can-

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didly stated. *Toleration* is all that is wanted; not that every Presbyterian church should have an organ. It is well known, that, in an extent of Scotland, nearly equal to one half, the gown and band dare not be worn, lest the wearer should be stoned; but it is tolerated elsewhere, and those who do not wear it find no fault with those who do. I trust that the time is at hand, when those congregations who may choose to have organs, will be as little molested as those whose pastors preach in the gown and band. I conclude by observing, that those of Scotland are the only Presbyterians, I believe, who have not organs in their churches. A very fine one, built under the direction of a Scotch minister, Mr Liston, has been lately sent to the Scotch church at Calcutta.—I am, Sir, yours, A PRESBYTERIAN.

Edinburgh, October 1817.

REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF PAINTING IN SCOTLAND.

MR EDITOR,

As the very respectable journal which you have lately undertaken to conduct, has long been distinguished for its cordial support of every improvement peculiarly Scottish, I trust you will readily give admission to the following observations on a subject which I consider to be of the very first importance, both to the character of this city, and to the progress of the country—I mean the present state of painting in Scotland. It is a subject to which, amidst the multifarious discussions that have lately engaged all minds, far less attention has been given, than, from its importance and interest, we might naturally have expected; and I shall, therefore, take the liberty of introducing the more immediate object of this paper by some observations on the previous history of the art in this country.

Scotland cannot be considered as having ever possessed a school of painting. The poverty of the country itself, and the active part which its inhabitants have taken in the political transactions of the last two hundred years, have combined in turning the attention of Scotchmen rather to studies connected with the conduct of affairs, than to those more tranquil pursuits which aim at the improvement of national taste; and, though a few individuals, during the last century, attained considerable eminence as professional painters, it is impossible to name any one of these whose accomplishments and genius were of so transcendant a nature, as either to shed a new lustre upon the character of his country, or to give a decided impulse to the taste of his contemporaries.

Most of the eminent painters who formerly flourished in this country, had studied abroad; and it is curious to observe how decidedly the exertions of their genius were determined by the combined influence of the models they had studied during their preparatory labours, and of the circumstances of the society in which they were placed, when they returned, as practitioners, to their native land. The style of painting in which the great foreign masters seem chiefly to have delighted, was that appropriated to history or portrait; and in a country like Scotland, which was chiefly remarkable for the poverty and dependence of the mass of the community, the feudal pride of the great proprietors, and the military achievements by which its history had been distinguished, the genius of its artists was naturally directed into a line of study corresponding to these circumstances. We find, accordingly, that the works of Jamieson, who is generally considered as the Vandyke of Scotland, were chiefly of that kind which can be appropriately employed in decking the sombre walls of an university;—and that those foreign artists who, from time to time, settled in this country, and who seem successively to have led the taste of the nation, have left us scarcely any thing but those solemn figures which now throw a sepulchral gloom over our public halls. Of this order are those pseudo-portraits of our Scottish monarchs which cover the walls of Holyroodhouse, and which were the productions of De Wit, an artist, it is said, of the Flemish school, and in his own days of no slender reputation. To the same class belong also the portraits executed by Sir John Medina, a native of Brussels, who, for his eminence as an artist, had been knighted in this country, and whose *chef-d'œuvres* are still, I believe, to be seen in high preservation in the Sur-

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geon's Hall of this city. Aikman, the friend of Ramsay the poet, produced the very excellent portrait of Principal Carstairs, which may still be seen in the Library Hall of the University of Edinburgh, and several other individuals of eminence in their day contributed to furnish those bearded countenances, or those majestic monsters in robes or gowns, by which the walls of our ancient and public edifices are so profusely covered. It ought to be remarked, however, that some native painters occasionally appeared, who ventured to indulge in a bolder style, and whose productions bear the stamp of that progressive improvement which every country in Europe very rapidly underwent during the last century. The taste and power of Runciman are sufficiently displayed by his great work in the Hall of Ossian at Pennycuick House, and by his excellent picture of the Ascension, which still appears over the altar of one of the Episcopal chapels of this city. As society advanced, the art of landscape painting, and all that infinite variety of the productions of the pencil, in which the genius of the artist must furnish his subject, gradually attained a state of comparative excellence; and several works of considerable merit, in both these departments, may still be found either in the collections of the curious, or among the hereditary treasures of our older families. Norrie was a landscape painter of some eminence in this city about the middle of the last century. Moore, who flourished somewhat later, has been regarded as the best landscape painter of his day; and, since his time, every branch of the art has been advancing with a rapidity, though not perhaps proportioned to the high character of the country in other respects, yet sufficient to shew what might be expected from the abilities of our artists, if their exertions were aided by every advantage of circumstances.

From this review, however, it must be apparent that the genius of this country, for the arts of design, has never been placed in such circumstances as completely to develope its native tendency; and that we are not entitled, from those productions of the pencil, which are still exhibited as the *chef-d'œuvres* of our predecessors, to decide respecting the character which painting would assume in this country, if the exertions of our artists were left to their natural bias. Many circumstances, it is true, contribute to produce and to modify the genius of a people; but there is a strong presumption, I apprehend, from the romantic character of the scenery of this country, the peculiar *naïveté* of our national character, and our decided tendency to catch what is striking and picturesque, either in the appearances of nature, or in the aspects of character,—a tendency so unequivocally displayed in the idiom of our language—that the genius of our artists would naturally display itself with the happiest effect, either in depicting the more romantic scenery of nature, or in expressing those peculiarities of our national manners which offer so many fine subjects for its exhibition. It is notorious, accordingly, that in both these departments the natives of this country hold, at this moment, a very high rank; and that, while Nasmyth and Williams, in landscape painting, may vie with the most approved artists among our southern neighbours, the compositions of Wilkie and Allan, as delineations of character, have outstripped the exertions of all other competitors, in the captivating style appropriated to such productions.

Your readers will perceive, therefore, from what I have now said, that, though I consider the genius of our countrymen, in the art of painting, never yet to have been so propitiously situated as decidedly to display its native partialities, I am disposed to believe, not only from analogical reasonings, but from facts universally acknowledged, that the department of this art, which may be regarded as especially suited to the character of our minds, is that which is conversant either with what is magnificent in nature, or interesting and peculiar in national character; and that, as the poetical compositions of Ramsay and Burns are pre-eminently entitled to the character of Scottish, not merely because they are occupied with national peculiarities, and delivered in the characteristic language of the country, but from their being exact specimens of that tone of thinking and feeling which is most congenial to our natural temperament—that artist also may be regarded as peculiarly the representative of the genius of our people

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who exhibits, with the happiest and most characteristic effect, either the picturesque features of national scenery, or the grotesque peculiarities of national manners.

From about the middle of the last century, till the present times,—a period during which the advances of this country towards refinement have been quite unexampled,—many unsuccessful attempts have been made to establish in Scotland, and particularly in this city, such a general combination of the productions of its artists, as might have the effect both of fostering the talent which is latent in the country, and of diffusing a more decided taste for what is excellent in art. The first of these attempts was made in the year 1753, by Robert and Andrew Fowlis, the celebrated printers. These accomplished individuals, having previously given much reputation to Glasgow by the unrivalled elegance of their style of printing, were naturally desirous that in other branches of art that city should support the high character it had acquired in one department. The academy which they instituted with this view, continued to exist for somewhat more than twenty years, and, though it was at last found to be too great a scheme to be maintained principally by private individuals, and fell accordingly into utter extinction, it is yet well known that this attempt was productive of a very beneficial influence upon the taste of the community, and that several artists, who have since attained to very considerable eminence, were reared under the auspices of this most patriotic institution.

About ten years after the decline of this establishment, viz. in the year 1786, another unsuccessful attempt to establish an academy of the fine arts in Edinburgh was made by some artists who had recently returned from the Continent of Europe, and who had been accustomed to witness the splendid institutions which are so numerous and beneficial in foreign countries. At the distance of five years from the period of this attempt, viz. in the year 1791, Mr Alexander Nasmyth made a similar fruitless endeavour to supply this important defect in the establishments of our metropolis. The institution which he projected was to have been denominated the Gallery of Art, and, as it was designed to have been supported by private contributions, it was intended chiefly for those who had already acquired a taste for the refinements of art, and was meant to support and perfect this taste among the better educated of the inhabitants of Scotland. Another attempt was made in 1797, which likewise failed; and, lastly, a public exhibition of the productions of our artists was opened in the year 1808, with the most promising appearances of success, but ultimately shared the fate of all preceding attempts, partly, as it is understood, from some misunderstanding among the artists themselves, and partly from the want of due encouragement on the part of the public. Of this last institution, however, the merits of which must still be fresh in the recollection of many of your readers, and which may be regarded, indeed, as the only general display of the powers of our artists that has yet been made, it is but justice to affirm, that, during the first years of its existence, it was supported with an ability and spirit, from which every friend of painting anticipated the most beneficial results, and that, although it necessarily suffered a diminution of brilliancy from the retirement of some of the leading artists during subsequent years, it had altogether a most important effect upon the taste of the country, and contributed to diffuse, throughout every class of the inhabitants, a very correct feeling, both of the comparative merits of our native artists, and of those principles which are universally applicable to the productions of the pencil.

It seems to me quite evident that some establishment similar to those the failure of which I have now been noticing, must exist in every enlightened country, as a centre from which a knowledge of the principles of art may be generally diffused. Some such establishment, in fact, is necessary to enable the artist to acquire that feeling of his importance, and that sense of his relation to the other members of the community, which are essential to a vigorous prosecution of his labours; because it is evident, that, so long as he works merely for his employers, without possessing an opportunity of exhibiting his productions, along with those of his most distinguished compatriots, to the notice of the public, he exists but as a hid-

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den member of the community around him, as a being whose operations are confined to the seclusion of his study, with little relation either to similar individuals, or to the interests of the commonwealth to which he belongs. It is obviously under a very different aspect that the artist views himself, when his solitary labours are intended to augment the treasures of his country, and are destined to be brought into public competition with the productions of other masters. Every feeling, both of private interest and of public spirit is then awakened in all its activity; and, while the productions of the artist acquire a new dignity in his estimation, from their relation to the most valuable riches of the community, he is excited to expend upon them all the powers of his genius at once, by the recollection of the able rivals that surround him, and of the impartial examination to which his works must be subjected. It is also obvious, that it is only by bringing his own productions into comparison with those of other individuals, that the artist can acquire that correct feeling of the comparative merits of different styles, which is necessary to regulate his attempts at improvement. The finest genius, unless guided and corrected by an extensive observation of contemporary productions, will necessarily be subject to many irregularities and defects; and no individual can be expected to arrive at much excellence in his profession who is not in the daily habit of comparing his efforts with those of an extensive circle of ardent rivals, whose separate merits he may gradually appropriate, and whose peculiar defects he may make it his object to avoid. Such an establishment seems to be necessary, in the last place, for diffusing a taste for what is elegant over the great mass of the inhabitants of a country. A people who have no opportunity of examining those productions on which the masters of art around them have been employed, will necessarily remain in pitiable ignorance of all the first principles that are applicable to such subjects, and, what is decidedly a matter of far deeper regret, will be deprived of all that high feeling of the capabilities of their nature, and of all those meliorating influences upon the temper and habits, which the sight of the finer productions of art will be found to generate, more powerfully perhaps than any other cause, in the minds even of the lowest and least instructed of mankind.

The time, in fact, seems now to have arrived, when the existence of some such institution cannot long be dispensed with. Scotland, during the last fifty years, has been advancing with unexampled ardour in the path of improvement. In science and in arms she has already obtained the most brilliant trophies; and the only wreath which is yet wanting to her glory is that which is reserved for the "Mistress of Arts." The natives of this country have also displayed unequivocal talents for this species of excellence. Their public exhibitions have been considered, by very competent judges, as not inferior, on their limited scale, to any other within the British dominions. A crowd of accomplished individuals are now collected within this city, whose taste and genius in every variety of style are universally admitted. Many of the most celebrated artists in the capital of the empire are natives of this country; and the same impression of their superior talents, which Scotchmen have conveyed to our southern neighbours in so many other departments of manly accomplishment, continues to be maintained by the style of their productions in this fine branch of liberal pursuit. To the artists themselves, then, of this city, I should be disposed most respectfully to say, Let every feeling of jealousy or of private misunderstanding, which may hitherto have prevented the success of your endeavours to establish for your country a repository of art, be now resigned at the prospect of that mighty good which your steady co-operation is sure to produce. Assume, as a body, that prominent place in the eyes of your countrymen which your undeniable merits entitle you to hold; and remember, that, by thus conducting yourselves, you are achieving a great work, not merely for your private interest, but for the improvement of your country. And the inhabitants of this metropolis, who may be supposed to exercise a paramount influence over the taste of their neighbours, I would also earnestly exhort to co-operate with ardour in the same patriotic design; to patronize,

as far as their abilities extend, exertions which are intended for the general advantage; and, in particular, to abstain, by hasty observations, from casting a slur upon the productions of a body of men who may be supposed peculiarly sensible to the attacks of criticism, and who are exerting themselves for the accomplishment of a great national object.

I make this last observation with the greater earnestness, because I have long regarded the spirit of criticism, which is at present characteristic of the inhabitants of this metropolis, as presenting a subject of very curious speculation. All the world are aware what an unexampled tone of decision this spirit has assumed on the great subjects of literature and science. For a long period, too, the stage in this metropolis has been guarded from the intrusion of any audacious novelties, by an unfailing exertion of those damnatory powers which the lieges have reserved entire to themselves; and there is reason to believe, that the failure of so many attempts to establish a repository of the fine arts in this city may, in some degree, be attributed to the same cause. I will not, at present, endeavour to account for so remarkable a propensity in the natives of this country. They, of course, will naturally attribute it to their superior discernment, and better education, and those who have smarted under the lash of their chastisement, will as willingly attribute it to very different causes. But an impartial observer will probably suggest, that both these conclusions might be very advantageously modified, and that mixed considerations, as in all human concerns, are more probably the efficients than either superior taste or absolute folly. What I wish, however, at present more especially to remark is, that a very delicate regard to circumstances is at all times necessary, in order to render criticism subservient to its only legitimate purpose;—and that there is a vast difference between the state of *literature*, as it now exists in most of the countries of Europe, and the situation attained by the *fine arts* in some of the most enlightened of the European commonwealths. A very powerful hand may be necessary for repressing the tendency to hasty composition in an age when literature is an universal study, and when the greatest danger to which knowledge is exposed, may be derived from the very superabundance and fearlessness of its cultivators. But the arts require to be fostered and supported by all the care that is appropriated to productions which are reared with difficulty, and easily injured; and though it is neither possible nor desirable completely to repress the exertions of criticism, it ought never to be forgotten that the incision which may be both necessary and expedient for removing the luxuriancies of an overgrown tree, may injure the vital energy of a sapling, and if continued to be inflicted with an unsparing hand, may eventually expose the land to all the horrors of nakedness.

It is with much pleasure that I have lately seen the artists of this city assiduously employed in the study of those masterpieces of Grecian art which, during the last two thousand years, have commanded the universal admiration of mankind, and which have now been propagated by means of casts over most of the enlightened capitals of Europe. Copies of several of the most remarkable of these sculptures had been transmitted to this metropolis as materials of study to the youths who are educated in the academy of this place; and the very handsome manner in which these models were laid open to the artists by the eminent individuals who patronize the academy, demand the gratitude and thanks of the community. It is interesting, at the same time, to observe the effect which the first sight of these celebrated statues appears to have upon the minds even of the best judges. The severe and unadorned simplicity of Grecian taste is not readily appreciated by those who have been accustomed to that more vague expression which characterizes the works of all modern artists; and it is not till repeated study has discovered the animated but correct qualities of the productions of Greece, that Taste resumes its native simplicity, and Admiration joins that shout of acclamation which these wonderful monuments have so long commanded. Much will unquestionably be done for the perfection of art by the general study of these celebrated works. The very enthusiasm which the artist must necessarily feel while employed in

copying after the masters of Greece, and while contemplating those models which have so uniformly been admired, amidst every vicissitude of opinions and tastes, cannot fail to animate him to more successful exertions. A fine opportunity is also afforded him, by these models, of observing those correct proportions, and that resolute adherence to the truth of nature, by which the statues of Greece are so remarkably characterized,—and a conviction cannot fail to be produced by the same studies, that it is in an attentive observation of the appearances of nature that the artist must seek for that perfection in his line which it is the necessary object of his ambition to attain. Amidst all these advantages, however, it ought never to be forgotten, that there is a radical difference between the style of the ancients, and that which is most natural to our northern imaginations; and the following profound observation of Madame de Stael, the principle of which it is the object of most of her works to illustrate, ought to be familiar to the understanding of every artist. The ancients, says this accomplished writer, possessed, if we may be allowed the expression, a corporeal soul, and its emotions were all strong, decided, and consistent. It is not the same with the human heart as it is developed in modern times. If, continues the same author in another passage, if in our days the fine arts were confined to the simplicity of the ancients, we should never attain that primitive strength which distinguishes them, and we should lose those intimate and multiplied emotions of which our souls are susceptible. Simplicity in the arts would, among the moderns, easily degenerate into coldness and abstraction, while that of the ancients was full of life and animation.

I have thus rapidly delineated what I conceive to have been the progress of the art of painting in this country. I will not conceal from you, however, that my chief object in making these observations has been to draw, if possible, the attention of the community, and particularly of the artists, to the importance of forming some such repository of their productions as may at once be conducive to the progress of the arts, and form an object worthy of the attention of the many enlightened strangers by whom this metropolis is visited. I have not ventured to propose any plan for this purpose, because I do not profess to be sufficiently acquainted with all the circumstances, upon a consideration of which such a plan ought to be formed. I cannot doubt, however, that the country is now prepared for such an establishment, and leaving the manner of producing it to the judgment of those who are better acquainted with all the requisite considerations, I have only to express a hope that this important object will speedily be accomplished; and that this city, so celebrated in other respects, will, at no distant period, vindicate, in this particular also, its right to the title so often bestowed upon it, of being the "Athens of the North."

I am, Mr Editor, yours, &c.

L.

EXPENCE OF THE BOARD, CLOTHING, AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

MR EDITOR,

The inclosed Report I think valuable and deserving of publication, although not of a very recent date. Some particulars in it are merely local, but others are of general interest. It is the only account I have ever met with of the expences of an institution for the board, clothing, and education of children, exclusively under the management of that respectable Society of Friends commonly called Quakers, and it may serve in some degree as a standard of comparison by which the public, or their respective managers, may judge of the profusion or economy in the conduct of similar institutions. To serve this purpose effectually, it would be necessary to know every thing regarding the object and extent of the institution. I can only state, that the children in the Ulster Provincial School were well clothed, well fed and educated; and that they received instruction in reading, writing, accounts, needlework, the service of a house and farm, besides acquiring habits of method, order, and subordination, qualifying them to be excellent servants or apprentices. From this report we see that all this may be done for the expence of L. 18, 6s. 4d. annually for each child; and we may rest assured,

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that any institution, where any thing of the same kind is done for the same sum, or even a little more, is well managed; for as every person who has ever taken an interest in the management of public charities, knows well, men of no other class surpass the Quakers in applying the funds entrusted to their care in the most advantageous manner. It would be interesting to know the annual expence of the boys in Watson's and Heriot's Hospitals, of the girls in the Merchant and Trades' Maiden Hospitals, and of the children in the Orphan Hospital, and in the Charity Work Houses of this place. I do not expect that in some of these institutions the children can be boarded, clothed, or educated for L. 20 a-year, but in others, judging by what is done for the children, the expence should be less.

VIATOR.

Sept. 1817.

Report of the State of Ulster Provincial School, for one year ending 31*st of* 12*th month*, 1813.

THE annexed statement of the accounts of the Ulster Provincial School was received at the yearly meeting, 1814, and referred to the consideration of a committee, who brought in the following report, viz.—

We have examined the Report of the state of Ulster Provincial School, for the year ending 31st of 12th month, 1813; and find, from the information laid before us, that the expenditure has exceeded the income in the sum of L. 103, 13s. 10½d.; and that there was due to the treasurer on that day L. 264, 9s. 1½d.; but that, since the account was made up, there was a subscription entered into by friends of that province, which has produced a considerable portion of said deficiency.

The average expence is L. 18, 6s. 4d for each child, being nearly the same as last year.

It appears that friends of Ulster, on considering the recommendation of last yearly meeting, to advance the bills of admission and continuance from three pounds to five pounds per annum, thought that, as a considerable number of the children were paid for by parents in straitened circumstances, it might have an effect upon such children being sent to the school, if the bills were advanced two pounds per annum; they therefore concluded to advance them at the present only to four pounds. The grounds upon which friends of Ulster appear to have acted, are approved of by the committee; but, in order to make the income sufficient, it is desirable that suitable endeavours be used to increase the amount of the annual subscriptions, by enlarging the subscription lists, even with names of friends who could afford to give but a small sum annually.

The friends that are now likely to have the charge of the family are all young; it is therefore desirable that a man friend of more experience should be procured, to have the charge of managing the farm, providing for the family, &c.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the Committee, 27th of 4th month, 1814.

JOSEPH FISHER (REUB.)

A Report of the State of Ulster Provincial School, for one year ending the 31*st of* 12*th month*, 1813.

INCOME.

Subscription from Grange monthly meeting	L.16	13	9				
Ditto Lurgan do. -	54	5	4½				
Ditto Lisburn do. -	65	19	6				
Ditto David Malcolmson	5	13	9				
				142	12	4½	
Interest on Leinster subscription - -	90	0	0				
Ditto Munster do.	78	0	0				
Ditto L.1500 lent on bond and mortgage - -	90	0	0				
				258	0	0	
Rent one year of holding in Lisburn - - -	32	19	2				
Ditto Lands of Breagh	36	11	4				
				69	10	6	
Bills of admission and continuance - - -	151	9	6				
Farm and garden, profit thereon - - -	94	16	7				
Overtime of children -	2	14	0				
				229	0	1	
				699	2	11½	
Expenditure exceeds income				103	13	10½	
				L.802	16	10	

EXPENDITURE.

Furniture for wear and tear -	L. 11	11	10
House expences - -	521	7	11
Clothing	115	17	8½
Stationary - - - -	8	19	7
Salaries and servants' wages -	104	16	0
Repairs and alterations -	26	6	6½
Contingencies - - - -	15	17	5
Average number of children in the house this year, nearly 44.			
Expence of each child, about L.18, 6s. 4d.			
	L.802	16	10

An Inventory of the Estate and Effects belonging to, and Debts owing by the Institution.

BELONGING TO THE INSTITUTION.

Provision and fuel - -	L.137	15	8
Farming utensils, cattle, &c. -	156	17	6
Carry over	L.294	11	2

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Brought forward		L.284	11	2
Furniture		220	5	5½
Clothing		54	15	9
Stationary		14	16	6
Due by Richhill monthly meeting		23	8	0
Ditto	Grange do.	10	16	2
Ditto	Largan do.	12	17	1
		L.611	10	3½

Signed on behalf of the School Committee, held the 5th of 3d month, 1814.
JAMES N. RICHARDSON.

OWING BY THE INSTITUTION.

To children in the house for unexpired time		L.68	0	0
To treasurer		264	9	1½
Balance in favour of the institution		279	1	2
Balance in favour of the institution last year	L.582 15 0½			
Decrease this year	105 15 10½			
Nett balance 31st of 12th month, 1813	L.279 1 2			
		L.611	10	3½

Read and approved by our quarterly meeting of Ulster province, held at Lisburn, 7th of 3d month, 1814, and signed by order thereof by
THOMAS GREER, Clerk.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Children admitted since the commencement to 31st of 12th month, 1813	114	141	255
In the house 1st of 1st month, 1813	20	24	44
Admitted since to 1st of 1st month, 1814	2	8	10
	22	32	54
Returned home, and to places as apprentices and servants	3	8	11
In the house 1st of 1st month, 1814	19	24	43

AN ACCOUNT OF THE MISFORTUNES OF MRS ERSKINE OF GRANGE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS LADY GRANGE.*

MR EDITOR,

THE extraordinary case of Mrs Erskine, known by the title of Lady Grange, excited great curiosity about 80 years ago, and is yet very interesting on account of the mystery which attends it, and its apparent connection with the plots of those who were concerned in the rebellions which broke out in the years 1715 and 1745.

Her maiden name was Rachel Cheisly. She was a daughter of Cheisly of Dalry, who shot the Lord President Sir George Lockhart, in revenge for deciding against him a law-suit, which had been referred to his lordship and another of the judges as arbiters. She was a beautiful woman, but of a very violent temper. It was reported, that Erskine of Grange (a brother of the Earl of Marr) had seduced her, and that she compelled him to marry her, by threatening his life, and reminding him that she was Cheisly's daughter.

Mr Erskine's character is represented as having been by no means amiable. He was dissipated, restless, and intriguing; and was supposed to be concerned in some of the measures preparatory and subsequent to the rebellion in 1715, of which his wife was in the secret. His frequent journeys to London, and some of his amours there, gave her so much uneasiness, that she threatened to inform government of all she knew, unless he consented to give up plotting, and live quietly at home. He did not choose to comply with these terms; and he formed a plan, by which she was violently seized in her own house and dragged away. It is a remarkable circumstance, that, notwithstanding the noise which this barbarous and tyrannical act occasioned, no means were taken to bring the perpetrators to justice, though some of them were well known. Grange had the address to persuade the public and his connections, that his wife was a mad woman, who had frequently attempted his life, and that confinement was absolutely necessary. He used to shew a razor, which, he said, he had taken from under her pillow. She had two sons grown to manhood at the time she was carried off, and it was suspected that either one or both consented to it. Her daughter, by Mr Erskine of Grange, was married to the Earl of Kintore. None of her relatives ever made the smallest stir about the matter. The fate of Lady Grange, after her seizure, has hitherto remained uncertain, except that it was known she had been carried to St Kilda. I have, however, obtained a manuscript, which throws much light on this transaction. The MS. is a copy of another, partly written for Lady Grange, by the minister of St Kilda, and partly by herself.* This manuscript I now send to you, with this remark, that it was found among the papers of a gentleman who flourished at the time of the transaction to which it refers, and who never would have put into his repository any thing of the kind which was not authentic. Indeed, the internal evidence it bears, proves the authenticity of the narra-

* For this curious paper we are indebted to the same gentleman who transmitted Lord Lovat's Memorial, and other valuable communications, for the *Edinburgh Monthly Magazine*.—EDIT.

* I have understood that there are other copies in existence.

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tive almost beyond question. During my inquiries in regard to this extraordinary transaction, I learned the existence of several documents which confirmed the story as narrated in the MS.; and also that some original letters of Lady Grange, which had found their way from St Kilda, had been recently in the hands of a bookseller in Edinburgh, from whom they had been purchased for the purpose of destroying them. It is not surprising that the descendants of the parties concerned should feel a desire to bury the story in oblivion, on account of the conduct which the narrative displays. But in matters of history, especially when the dispositions and manners of a people are interesting, private feelings must be disregarded. Nothing has yet appeared which exhibits in a stronger light than the following narrative, the ferocity not only of the Highland clans, but of a portion of their southern neighbours; and it is valuable, in so far as it proves the long duration of barbarism, and assists us to appreciate the astonishing rapidity with which civilization has proceeded in Scotland, and more particularly in the Highlands. Being myself a member of a numerous Highland clan, I am not ashamed to avow, while I lament, the savage state in which the Highlands were suffered to remain, till a Chatham arose to demonstrate the value of that lofty spirit of freedom, and of attachment to each other, which, while under no regulation but the caprice of a few chieftains, naturally resolved into hatred of their southern neighbours. Many of my name were concerned in the rebellions which agitated Scotland during the first half of the 18th century; and many may have been guilty of actions equally atrocious with that of which I now give you the details; yet I have no other feeling in connection with the past, than thankfulness for having lived to see the effects of the enlightened policy of Chatham, and that policy followed up by the liberality of the government towards the most remote districts of the empire, in opening up a country hitherto inaccessible, by roads and bridges, executed under the direction of the most able engineers. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, GAEL.

"*January* 21, 1741.

"I, the unfortunate wife of Mr James Erskine of Grange. That after I had lived near 25 years in great love and peace, he all of a sudden took a dislike to my person, and such a hatred that he could not live with me, nor so much as to stay in his house; and desired me to subscribe a separation during his pleasure, which I thought was contrary to my vows before God; and that I dearly loved my husband. Both his friends and mine own were at a great deal of pains to persuade me, but I absolutely refused to subscribe it. At last, after much threatening, he got me out of the house; and I designed at that time to go straight to London; but some of my friends thought his temper might alter, and gave me your house to stay in, it being a little without the town, I desiring to live retired. After having lived some months there, I came into Edinburgh, and I took a chamber in a private house near to my lord's lodging, that I might have the pleasure to see the house that he was in, and to see him and my children when going out and in. I made both his relations and mine own speak to him, and some ministers, and was always in hopes that God would shew him his sin of putting away his wife contrary to the laws of God and man, and this was no secret; for the president of the session, and several of the lords, the solicitor, and some of the advocates and ministers of Edinburgh, knows all this to be truth. When I lost all hopes, then I resolved to go to London and live with some of my friends, and make myself as easy as I could without him. Having paid a part of my coach hire, and taken a leave of my friends and of the ministers, two days before I should have gone away, upon the 22d ——— 1732, after eleven o'clock at night, it being the Saturday evening, the house belonging to one Margaret Maclean, a Highland woman, she put the few she had in her house to bed, which were two Highland women, and a little servant maid, an hour and a half before ordinary. I had no servant with me in that house but a chamber-maid, and whether she was upon that plot, or whether the mistress put her out of the way, I know not. There came two men to the door, saying they had a letter for my lady, and the mistress of the house brought them to my room door, and then rushed in some

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Highland men, whom I had seen frequently attending my Lord Lovat, and, if I well remember, had his livery upon them, who threw me down upon the floor in a barbarous manner, and I cried out murther. Then they stopt my mouth, and dang out several of my teeth, and I bled; and abused my face most pitifully with their hard rude hands, till there was no skin left on my face all below my eyes; for I was always putting out the cloaths as fast as they put in, being on the floor at the time, and I defended myself with my hands, and beat with my heels upon the loft, in hopes the people below would hear me. And then a near cousin of my Lord Lovat's lookt in at the door, and gave directions to cover my head, and tye down my hands with a cloath: they had wrestled so long with me, that it was all that I could breathe, and then they carried me down stairs as if they had a corps. I heard many voices about me; being blindfolded, I could not discover whom they were. They had a chair at the stair foot, which they put me in; and there was a man in the chair who took me on his knee, and I made all the struggle I could; but he held me fast in his arms, and hindered me to put my hands to my mouth, which I attempted to do, being tied down. The chair carried me off very fast, and took me without the ports; and when they opened the chair, and taken the cloth off my head to let me get air, I perceived, it being clear moon light, that I was a little way from the Multer's Hill,* and that the man on whose knee I sat was one Alexander Foster of Carssbonny, who had there six or seven horses and men with him, who said all these were his servants, though I knew some of them to be my Lord Lovat's. The names they gave them was Peter Fraser, whom I believed to be my lord's page. He came along with me and the chair, but did not ride with me. I believe it was he that set me on the horse behind Mr Forster, if I well remember, and they tied me fast with a cloth to Mr Forster; and there was three of my Lord Lovat's servants who rode along, one of them was called Alexander Fraser, and the other James Fraser, and his groom, whose name I know not. These were the names they gave them; but whether they were their proper names, I know not. Another that rode along was Andrew Leishman, a tenant in West Pomeise, which belongs to Mr Stewart, and had been tenant there this 26 years. I heard another of the horse was a young gentleman, my Lord Lovat's cousin. I heard so, but did not see him, for he kept out of my sight. Before they set me on horse, I showed how all the linens about my face was covered with blood, and that they had torn all the clothes upon my head, and torn out some of my hair, and blindfolded me; but the joggling of the horse shuffled up the cloaths off my eyes, so that I saw what way they rode with me, streight by the long way. I saw that I was at the back of the castle. They took me the streightest way to Lithgow; and it was a very frosty, cold, bitter night. I took stitches in my side, sitting in a constrained posture, and I begged Mr Foster to allow me to light a little till I was eased of my pains. Mr Foster cried to Sandy Fraser to stop my mouth again, for it was he that stopt my mouth when I was in my own room, and called me a damned bitch, that he would break my neck if I did not hold my peace, was he venturing his life for me. He took me a little beyond Lithgow. When he saw that day was approaching, he took me into a house which belongs to John Macleod, who is an advocate, whose servant had known of my coming, and met me with candles in their hands at the far end of the entry, and brought me into a very good room and fire on, so that they knew of my coming. I saw no servants in the house but two men and a woman, and told them whose wife I was, and that I was stolen; and he presently took me up stairs to a very good bed-room, which had a fire, and good linnings in the bed, which I looked to, and found Mr Macleod's name on them. They kept me there all day, and would not allow a woman to come up into the room, but set Sandy Fraser with me all the day; for which reason I would not throw off my cloaths for as wearied and cold as I was, Fraser was so barbarous and cruel. When it was night, about seven, he told me I had some more

* Where St James's Square is now.

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miles to ride; and he took me down stairs by force, and tied me on the horse as I was the night before. He rode streight to Falkirk, and we met none on the way, it being the Sabbath night, which I thought very misfortunat, or else I would have cried out for help. He rode away by the south side of Falkirk, and through the Tore Wood, which way I knew all, having travelled it before. Some little after we left the Tore Wood, he rode a way which I knew not; and I was very weary, it being a bitter night. He said he was taking me to his own house, but did not tell me its name, and thought all along I did not know whom he was, a cloth being tied to his face, that I might not perceive it; and he brought me streight to Wester Pomeise, where he was factor for Mr Stewart, who is married to Brisbane of Bishopstown's sister. He took me in through a laigh vault, and then into a room of the vault, the windows of the room being nailed with thick boards, and no light in the room; but in a little closet, a little slitt where a man could scarcely put in his hand, less than the thieves' hole in Edinburgh, and a very old ugly bed without a roof, a timber chair, with the half of the bottom in it; and there I was kept a close prisoner for thirteen or fourteen weeks, not having liberty as much as go without doors; and two doors lockt on me, cross bars on the outside. The servant that waited on me there was an old gardener and his wife that he had provided, who had a meall garden in Stirling. His name is George Ross, and his wife's name Agnes Watt. He lived in Stirling many years, and had two sons and a daughter, who was frequently with their father, and saw me. Andrew Leishman, mentioned before, brought what meat and drink I needed, and all other provisions, such as coal and candle. He went always to Mr Foster, got directions about it. His wife served me in what things she could do about me. They have three daughters which his wife has born, and his eldest son, William Leishman. They kept me so long close prisoner, that it endangered my health, and I grew sick, and Andrew told Mr Foster that he would allow me go out, and that he would not have a hand in my death; and then I was allowed to go to the high rooms, and to go to the court to get the air much against Mr Foster's will. The gardener was kept there for a security to dress the garden and the trees. Sandy Fraser was left with me the first three or four days, and then James Fraser was sent out to wait of me, for he would not trust me to the gardener; and he kept the key in his own custody day and night. My Lord Lovat came frequently through Stirling to Mr Foster, his house being within a mile of it; and Mr Foster went out and met him, to concert matters about me, and James Fraser, who waited of me, went with him. I was kept prisoner there till the 12th August, and then Peter Fraser, my lord's page, came and staid till the 15th. Mr Fraser came up then, and three Highlandmen with him, and took me out of the room by force; James and Peter Frasers carried me out, and set me on a horse behind the captain. It was about ten o'clock at night, and carried me away by Stirling; and when I offered to cry, they came with a big roll made for the use, to stop my mouth, and a cloth to tie about it to keep it in; and they carried me along by Stirling bridge, and after that I knew no more of the way. It was moonlight, and they rode till it was near day, and then took me into house. The captain, Mr Foster, went to the room with me, and sat a little with me, and never came near me after that. He gave the charge of me to one who called himself Alexander Grant, but I believe he feigned his name; he rode with me out of Pomeise that night's journey; Andrew Leishman and Peter and James Frasers were the rest of the company that rode, and a man who was our guide, called himself Macdonald, and told me he was born at Glengary's. Always when they took me out of any place, they did by force, and I bad them consider what they were doing in taking me away against my will. Whenever it was night, they set me on a horse behind Grant, who was nothing but a silly fellow, and he could ride before me; and then they set my Lord Lovat's footman, James Fraser, before me, and tied me to him, that I might not leap off; and rode all night with me, and brought me into General Wade's new way, I knew not how far in the Highlands. Whenever it

was day, they took me into a house, and kept me there all day, and when it was night, set me on a horse by force. And always when we came by houses, I attempted to speak, then they offered to stop my mouth. We rode all night, and again morning, with great difficulty, they found a barn to put me in; there they kept me all day, and it being far in the Highlands, by four in the afternoon, they set me on a horse again, and rode all night. Again Saturday they brought me to a Mr Forster, though he came not near me, always rode behind or before, and lodged always in the same place I lodged. Upon Saturday I saw him take horse, and his man with him. I look't out at a hole, and saw him. Again night they set me on a horse again, and carried me amongst the Highland hills, and rode till it was near morning, and laid me down on the grass, being very weary; and they rode all the Sabbath; the side of a hill, and the way was so bad, that it was not rideable, for they carried me in their arms; we were at an open shils all that night, and the next day the waters were so high, that we could not cross till it was near night, then they got me on horse and carried me to a place called Milltown, when preparations were made for me, that being the 28th day of the month. I was never in bed all the time since we came from Pomeise. With their rude hands they had hurt one of my breasts. I was kept there sixteen days, and all the company left me, but James Watson's herd. This was on my Lord Lovat's ground. They called the man of the house Andrew Fraser. Grant came on the of September, and set me on horse by force, at night, and put me in a boat, which was in a loch about a mile from Milltown. They crossed the loch with me, and James Fraser left me there some nights without, and some nights in byres. After we crossed the loch, and again the 9th of the month, at the evening, we came to a loch-side on Glengarie's ground. I should have been taken to Scoto's house, brother to the Laird of Glengary, whose wife is aunt to John Macleod the advocate, for the man who was to get me was one Alexander Macdonald, for I was to come to Scoto's house,* but they altered their minds, and ordered him to come to Lochnirn,* and wait for me on the 10th of the month, on the break of day, for fear of their being seen, for they were always in terrour. They dragged me by force, and I cried bitterly out; they were all Highlanders, and nobody understood me; and took me into a sloop, of which Alexander Macdonald was master, who is a tenant in an island called Hesker, belonging to Sir Alexander Macdonald, who told me he had been at Scoto's house, and seen my Lord Lovat's cousin, formerly mentioned; he was ordered to take me home to his own isle, and keep me there till further orders. I told him I was stolen out of Edinburgh, and brought there by force, and that it was contrary to the laws what they were doing. He answered that he would not keep me or any other against their will, except Sir Alexander Macdonald were in the affair. How far Sir Alexander is concerned in this I am not certain; but the man being poor and greedy of money, made him go beyond his own light. We lay long on the loch for want of wind, and young Scoto's son and his father's brother came into the sloop the time that the sloop lay in the loch. They came with design to see me, but not to relieve me. We came not out of the loch till the 19th day of the month, and then Macdonald, another son of Scoto's, came into the sloop, and had a long conversation with Alexander Macdonald. We were storm-stay'd by the way, and we were in hazard of being lost before we came to Hesker, which was a poor miserable island. Upon the 30th day of the month we came there. That day we came out of the loch there came in a son of Dornicks, called John Macleod, and William Toling, who lives on Macleod's ground, who before was merchant at Inverness, and Rory Macdonald, brother to Castletown, and they all understanding the language, I told them all my misfortunes; and William Toling said he was at Edinburgh the time I was stolen, and promised me he would tell Renkiller where I was to be taken. I was in the island Hesker ten months before I got bread, and suffered much cold and hunger, and many hardships and barbarous usage. I was in that strait al-

* Macdonald of Scothouse.

* Probably Lochhourn.

most I wanted stockings, shoes, and many other necessarys. And Macdonald said he had no orders to give me any meat but what they eated themselves; but had no orders for cloaths. After I was near a year in his custody, he said he would go and tell them from whom he got me, that he thought it was a sin to keep me, and that he would let me away, and that he had writ twice or thrice about what necessarys I wanted, but got no answer. When he came back he said he had seen Sir Alexander Macdonald, and said to him it was a sin and shame to keep me, for that he would keep me no longer. Sir Alexander said he was sorry that he had meddled in such an affair, and did not know how to get out of it, but discharged him to let me go till farther orders. Alexander said he was bidden treat me harshly, and do nothing but what was his pleasure, and to cross me in every thing. Though he got me bread, yet I was much more hardly dealt with than he had done the first year, and I thought it hard enough when he was in Sky, at Sir Alexander's, he told me he saw Alexander Mackenzie of Delvin's two brothers. I well remembered they are called Kenneth and John Mackenzies, and he pretended he told them he had me in his custody, for he made it not a secret. I often begged him to allow me to write to my friends the time I was with him, and that then I would be relieved, for he said he was discharged to let me write, or tell me the place of the world I was in. I was many months there before I knew whose ground I was on. I often begged him to tell the minister, who was one Mr John Maclean, and the name of his parish is the Weist, which is in the middle of the Long Island, and bordered with Clanranald's ground. I desired him to come and see me, and pray for the distress of my family. Mr Macdonald told me he answered it was his duty to pray for every body in distress; but if he could not come and see me, he had but an eight mile ferry to cross. But whether Alexander told him I was there, cannot be positive or sure. In May 1734, Sir Alexander Macdonald came to the Weist to set his land, and sent word to Alexander I was to be taken away from him very soon, and that he would allow no more board for me, therefore he should let me go with the first that came for me. It was but a small island, none in it but cottars, and his servants. Upon the 14th day of June there came a sloop to the Hesker, with John Macleod, tenant to the Laird of Macleod, in a place which they call North Town, in the parish of Harrioch, and brought a letter to Alexander. He showed me the letter to give up the cargo that was in his hands. The day before he got the letter he had been at the Captain of Clanranald's house, and had met with my Lord Lovat's cousin there, the Captain being married to his sister. John Macleod and his man were very rude to me, and hurt me very sore in the taking me away. Alexander Macdonald told me he knew not where I was going to, and John Macleod said he was taking me to the Orkney islands. The galley belonged to himself, but his brother Norman Macleod was manager of it. He was in such terror that it should be known that I was in his custody, that he now all his men. When I came to the island, I found it as I heard of it, a very desolate island, but nobody in it but natives of the place. John and his brother stayed a few days in the place, and by no means would confess from whom he got me, but I found out; what hand the Laird of Macleod had in it I am not sure. He left me in a very miserable condition, but had no provision for me but what the island afforded, and nobody to wait of me that understood me, but one ill-natured man who understood a little English, and explained to others what I wanted; and he was not only ill-natured, but half-witted, and one day drew out his durk to kill me. After being some time in this island, God in his good providence, who in all my distress has taken care of me, for which I have great reason to bless and praise him, where I found God much present with me for as desolate it is, comforting me, and supporting me in my long and heavy trial, a minister and his wife came to the island, to whom I am exceeding much obliged; and if it had not been for the care that he and she took, I had died for want of meat, for there were no provisions sent me but two pecks of flour, and what the place can afford, such as milk and a little barley knocked, and

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that forced from them by threatenings, for the people is very poor and much oppressed. I have nobody to serve me but a little Highland girl;* and the minister and his wife must explain to her. He is a serious and devout man, and very painfull, and what time he can spare from his business he is so good as to come to see me. I am not sure whose hands this may come to, but if I be dead, I beg my friends may be kind to reward this minister and his wife, for he hath helped to preserve my life, and made it comfortable the time I lived. John Macleod abovenamed is tenant of this island. † I got the minister persuaded to write the account of the way I was stolen, and by whom, that he might acquaint my friends. He would not give me a pen to write any of them, but said he would do all for me that was in his power. When he went from this island, he resolved to go to Edinburgh, but he would not venture to carry this paper with him. But I gave him a bill on you and two others of my friends, that they might know where I was; but his life being threatened he left this island, and he was after hindered either to go to Edinburgh, or to write to any body about me. Since he came back to this island, he sent me word by his wife that he had burnt the bills I had given him: he is in such fear of his life and his uncle's. Some other of the ministers were angry at him for the care and the concern he had taken of me. He bade his wife get this paper from me that he might destroy it, that it might never come to light as written by him. Since I could not get paper to write so full an account as this, I thought it no sin to deceive her, and I burnt two papers before her, and bade her tell the minister now to be easy. I am not sure who of my kin and friends is dead, or who is alive; but I beg whosoever hands this comes first to, to cause write it over in a fair hand, and to shew it to all my friends."

The following notices are written at the end of the narrative.

"Grant had his felows.

"Scoto's wife aunt to Roderick Macleod, his father's sister.

"There sprang a leck in the sloop; we were in great danger.

"One of Lord Lovat's lyes which he said to John Macleod the young man of Dynwick, that I was going to kill my husband—you know that a lye.

"Sir Alexander Macdonald, at any time he wrote about me. the name he gave me was the Carop.

"I hear that Alexander Macdonald in the Hesker is dead. His wife is since married Logan Macdonald her tenant to Clanronald. She knows it was Lord Lovat and Roderick Macleod that stole me.

"The minister's daur saw me taken out of Mrs Margaret Maclean's house by Roderick Macleod—and he told Lady Macleod he said"—

This Roderick Macleod was Macleod of Muiravonside, who, it was well known, acted the principal part in the barbarous scene described by the sufferer.

From the above curious document, it appears that Lady Grange was at St Kilda nine years after she was taken from Edinburgh. When the author of the notice which precedes the narrative was at St Kilda, in the year 1800, he was informed by an old man, who remembered having seen Lady Grange, that she had been seven or eight years on that island. On making inquiry respecting what happened afterwards to this ill-fated woman, he was informed by a gentleman in Skye, that, in consequence of a dread of discovery, she had been removed to Assint, (the western district of Sutherland,) and from thence to Skye, where she died.

HIGHLAND SCENERY.—DESCRIPTION OF A STUPENDOUS CATARACT AT LOCHLEVEN-HEAD, NEAR BALLACHELISH, ARGYLESHIRE.

MR EDITOR,

The romantic scenery of some parts of the Highlands of Scotland is universally and deservedly admired. But at a time when so many are travelling merely for amusement, it is rather surprising, that the knowledge even of the existence of some of the greatest natural curiosities in the island, should still be confined to the few

* This person is yet alive in North Uist, and is upwards of 90 years of age. She was seen by Mr Campbell, author of Albyn's Anthology, who lately travelled into the remote parts of Scotland in search of ancient music.

† Her own hand begins at "I got."

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neighbouring inhabitants. Of this being the case, I had lately a striking instance, when at Ballachelish in the western part of Inverness-shire, in the neighbourhood of which I saw some of the most striking scenery any where to be met with. As I have never seen any description of the beauties of that place, I shall trouble you with a short account of the adventures of a day I spent there, in hopes of its being useful to future travellers.

I had stopped all night at Ballachelish, and intended early in the morning to proceed southward through the celebrated valley of Glencoe. On looking out, however, I found that it rained a good deal, and that the hills were quite covered with mist, which would have rendered travelling alone in a country almost uninhabited very disagreeable. While hesitating whether to set out or not, I walked a short way along the banks of Lochleven, (an arm of the sea,) to see some of the slate quarries for which Ballachelish is celebrated. At one of these I found a man who spoke tolerable English, and who informed me that there were some waterfalls at the head of Lochleven more interesting than those of Foyers. Being in doubt whether I could depend on his account or not, I went and asked the landlord if he knew any thing of such falls. He confirmed the account I had received, and mentioned, that there were also several remarkable caves in that neighbourhood, but could give me no distinct description either of these or of the waterfalls. A gentleman who had been all night in the inn, on being informed of these curiosities, was as anxious as I was to see them. The landlord informed us that we could get a boat to the head of the loch, which was nine miles distant, and then we would not have far to walk. We soon procured a boat, and two men to row it, but we were obliged to wait for some time that we might go up with the tide, as in some places the current was such as would have rendered it impossible to go against it. At last, however, about eleven o'clock, we set out on our voyage of discovery, as we found good reason to call it.

As we advanced, the loch, which at Ballachelish was not above a quarter of a mile in breadth, expanded into a large sheet, the banks of which were ornamented with considerable quantities of natural wood. On both sides were high mountains, some of which seemed to rise almost perpendicularly from the loch, and were green to the tops. The whole of the scenery of this loch was grand, and the reflection that in its neighbourhood was the residence of Ossian, added not a little to its interest. Our boatmen occasionally sung us some Gaelic songs, to which they beat time with their oars, and which, although any thing but fine music, added considerably to our entertainment. About two or three miles from Ballachelish, we passed a small island called St Mungo's Isle. It had been formerly resorted to for a burial ground to protect the dead bodies from wolves, which were once very common in this country, and it is still used as such. One of our boatmen, whose name was Cameron, informed us, that at burials the pomp of feudal times is still in some degree preserved. He told us, that upwards of 4000 Camerons, of whom he was one, attended the funeral of a son of Mr Cameron of Fassfern, who was killed at Waterloo, and whose body was brought home for interment.

Not far from the island above mentioned, the loch suddenly contracted into a narrow channel, confined on each side by rocks of a slaty structure. Through this the tide was flowing with great rapidity, and carried the boat with almost the swiftness of an arrow. Beyond this the loch again expanded to a considerable breadth, and was surrounded on all sides, except the narrow channel through which we passed, by lofty and steep mountains, green to the tops, except where a craggy precipice elevates its rugged front in awful grandeur. On the south side of the loch we saw part of Glencoe, through which the Cona of Ossian pours its "thousand streams."

When within about two miles of the head of the loch, the boatmen put us ashore on the north side, telling us, that there was a "curious place" there which they would shew us. We accompanied them along the banks of a considerable stream, which runs into the loch, and soon arrived at a place where the water, confined on each side by high rocks, forms one fall of considerable height, besides

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several small ones. But what rendered this particularly worthy of our attention was, the water having in five places quite near each other cut a passage for itself, leaving the rock arched above it, and thus forming five natural bridges.

With some difficulty we got at one of these, which was almost close to the principal fall. On going upon it we had a fine view of the water falling from a considerable height into an awful gulf immediately under our feet; but so narrow was the rock, and so near the water, that it was impossible to stand long on it without becoming quite giddy.

Having returned to the boat, we proceeded to the head of the loch, where we again left the boat and walked along the banks of another stream, on which we were told there was a fall. We had not proceeded far till we came in sight of part of this fall, where we saw a large stream of water precipitating itself a hundred feet or more over a perpendicular rock, into a deep chasm, the sides of which concealed the lower part of the fall from us. On getting to the mouth of this chasm, a grand view all at once burst on our sight. The water having gained an immense velocity in the part we had before seen, but which was now in its turn concealed by a projecting cliff, fell quite detached from the rock in an extended and foaming sheet, into the gulf below. The height of this lower part I supposed to be at least 500 feet. Wishing to see the whole fall at once, we endeavoured to get still nearer it. This was by no means an easy task, as the stream entirely filled the bottom of the chasm, and the sides were so steep that it was impossible to walk on them. We were therefore obliged to walk in the stream itself, which, though rapid, was not so deep at the sides as to stop us. After proceeding for some time in this way, sometimes scrambling over pieces of rock, and sometimes obliged to hold by twigs or bushes growing on the sides, to prevent ourselves from being carried down by the current, we at length arrived at a point where the fall could be seen to the greatest advantage, and we found it well worth all the trouble we had undergone to get at it. We were now surrounded on all sides, except the narrow chasm through which we had passed, by rocks so steep and so high, that we could only see a small part of the sky immediately over our heads. In the crevices of these rocks, some weeping birches had taken root, which must have been supported entirely by the spray arising from the fall, as there appeared to be scarcely any soil about them. But the fall was the grand object to which our attention was directed. The water, for about 100 feet or upwards, seemed just to touch the rock, down which it rushed with a velocity almost inconceivable; but below this it was entirely detached from the rock. On leaving the rock, the water, which was before confined and narrow, expanded into a broad and foamy sheet, and rolled in awful majesty into an abyss quite concealed by the clouds of spray which rose from it. Indeed, the water seemed to be quite broken, by the resistance of the air, into small particles, long before it reached the bottom, presenting the appearance of clouds of mist blown before the wind. In a few minutes we were completely wet with the spray, but we were too highly delighted to regard such a trifling inconvenience. In short, the freshness and verdure of the trees, scattered here and there among the cliffs, the wildness and height of the rocks, the foamy whiteness of the water, and, above all, its terrific thundering roar, all conspired to render this scene the most awfully sublime I ever beheld. We had no means of measuring the exact height of this fall; the boatmen informed us that they had once accompanied the factor of a neighbouring gentleman, who had measured it by taking a station as nearly as possible on a level with the top of the fall, and letting down a plumb line to the surface of the water below. They even pointed out the very tree from which they had let fall the line, —at a height, as they averred, of 1083 feet from the bottom. This, however, I think, must have been an exaggeration. I have no doubt that its height is above 500 feet, but it is impossible to judge with any tolerable accuracy in a place where every thing is on so grand a scale, and where there is no known height to judge from. At any rate, this fall is by far the grandest I ever saw, and vastly surpasses the celebrated Foyers, both in the height of the fall, and the quantity of water.

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This fall has one peculiarity which is a considerable improvement to its appearance, which is, that its water, except when swoln with rains, is pure and transparent, and its foam, instead of having a reddish tinge from moss or any earthy substance, is of a brilliant pearly whiteness, which is finely contrasted by the blackness of the surrounding rocks.

We next went to visit some of the caves we had heard of. Our guides, after muttering Gaelic to each other for some time, at last confessed, that they did not know where to find the entrance to any of them. We, however, had the good fortune to meet a man who dwelt near the head of the loch, and who undertook to conduct us. He led us a good way up a hill, near the top of which, he shewed us a small hole in the turf, which proved to be the entrance to a very large cavern, and which could be quite concealed by a small quantity of heath. It was so dark, that we could not see the whole of it, but from what we saw, we judged that it was of great extent. We found that there was another entrance to it in the face of a precipice, which was so steep as to render the cave almost inaccessible from that quarter. Our guide informed us that at no very remote period this cave was the haunt of a gang of robbers, but their retreat having been at last discovered, the cave was surrounded by soldiers, and a party entered by the opening from the top. The banditti, however, made their escape by the other opening, of which the soldiers were ignorant.

We were next conducted to another cave, close by the side of a river. The entrance to it was in the precipitous bank of the stream, and so near it, that we were obliged to walk through the water to get at it. The mouth of it was very narrow, but it appeared to be of considerable size within. Our guide informed us, that a man who had been outlawed for some crime, lived for several years in this cave, going out at night to procure provisions, and keeping concealed during the day. At last having turned too bold, he ventured out in daylight, and was apprehended and executed. Although our guide either would not, or could not tell, us any thing particular about him, I was led to suppose, from what information we procured, that this had been Allan Breck Stuart, who was supposed to have murdered a Mr Campbell of Glenure. *

We now began to think of returning to Ballachelish, but were obliged again to wait for the tide. On this account it was very late before we got there. In the course of our excursion at the head of the loch, we saw large masses of marble, which might be wrought to great advantage. Great quantities of fine slates are quarried at Ballachelish and Glencoe, and sent to various parts of the kingdom. Porphyry and granite abound in this part of the country. Deer are frequently to be met with among the hills, and eagles build in some of the rocks. Upon the whole, we were highly gratified with what we had seen during this day, and I would recommend it to future travellers, by no means to pass Ballachelish, without paying a visit to Lochleven-Head. I am, &c. J.

REMARKS ON THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The very unusual circumstance of a deaf and dumb woman appearing at the bar of our Supreme Criminal Court, accused of murder, and that too of her own child, having excited,

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* This murder happened soon after the rebellion in 1745, and excited much interest about that time, on account of a man being executed for it, who was generally believed to have been intirely innocent. The estate of Ardshiel, the property of a Mr Stewart, had been forfeited on account of his being engaged in the rebellion. Mr Colin Campbell of Glenure was appointed factor, and under him Mr James Stewart, a brother of the late possessor. For some time Campbell behaved with moderation, but afterwards, having turned out many of the tenants, he was shot when passing through the wood of Lettermore, on his way from Fort William, where he had been on some business. It was generally supposed that Allan Breck Stuart was the murderer. Mr James Stewart, however, was also suspected of having been an accomplice, and was apprehended, and tried at Inverary. Although it was proved that he was at home when the murder happened, and although little was proved against him, except that he had sent Allan some money, he was condemned and executed; but it was generally believed that he met with great injustice.

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in no ordinary degree, the attention of the public, we beg leave to lay before our readers a few remarks, which have arisen from a consideration of that case, the history of which was shortly as follows: *Jean Campbell, alias* Bruce, a native of Argyllshire, born deaf and dumb, had long procured her subsistence as a wandering beggar. Cast upon the world without education and unprotected, it was naturally to be supposed she would fall an easy prey to any villain who might choose to take advantage of her helplessness; accordingly, we find her the mother of several natural children, and that her conduct in other respects was not the most proper. While leaning against the parapet of one of the bridges over the Clyde at Glasgow, on the 19th of November 1816, her youngest child, an infant about three years old, slipt from her back while asleep,—fell into the river, and was lost,—and it was to account for this accident that she was brought to the bar of the Court of Justiciary, being indicted for murder. On calling the diet, it was stated in bar of trial, that the prisoner had been deaf and dumb from her birth;—had never received any education;—and as having a *mens sibi non conscia aut recti aut mali*, she was literally without the pale of the law. As the case was not only novel, but highly important, the Judges ordered informations, and excellent papers were given in, both by the counsel for the Crown and for the prisoner.* The Lords decided that the woman, though deaf and dumb, was capable of pleading. The trial was proceeded in at Glasgow, and we rejoice to add, that the poor woman was acquitted, as it was proved that the loss of the child was altogether accidental.

The deaf and dumb form a very interesting part of the human species, and if we could succeed in drawing the attention of philosophers and men of science to a more minute investigation of their physical and moral defects, we are convinced that much of the former, and the whole of the latter, might be remedied; for, whether we examine the mechanical structure of the human body, or attempt to unravel the more abstruse properties of mind;—whether we consider man as a mere machine which is acted upon by external objects, and has a self-governing power, or look upon him as an intelligent being, possessing power and faculties superior to every other living thing, we shall still find that man is the noblest study of man, and that in this field there is enough to engage the attention of the most zealous inquirer, and more than sufficient to occupy him in every waking hour. It is not our intention, on the present occasion, to enter into any metaphysical discussion of the connection between mind and matter, or to canvass the opinions of men with regard to moral consciousness and innate or acquired ideas, though the subject, we must confess, is most inviting. We rather prefer dealing in facts, which every one has the power of verifying to himself.

All know that the mind is acted upon by means of the external senses, and that, when any one of these senses becomes diseased, or has never existed, one of the channels by which knowledge is communicated is shut up; and though every sense has its own particular modification, and no two individuals hear and see exactly alike, yet all in whom these senses are perfect, acquire their knowledge of external objects in a great measure by means of the eye and the ear. In man there is no proportion between the manifestations of his faculties and the perfection of his external senses; for though the acquisition of vocal speech in children depends almost entirely upon the sense of hearing, yet it does not follow that he who has the most acute ear is to be the most eloquent speaker. Nay, many persons possess a very acute sense of hearing, without being able to distinguish the harmony of sounds, or at least without being sensible to the beauty of music, whilst others who have rather a dull ear are alive to all the charms of melody. It is a work of labour to teach a child to speak even when all the senses are perfect, and, of course, is still more so when he is deprived of the power of distinguishing sounds. We have heard or read somewhere of an enthusiast who, anxious to ascertain what language a child would speak,

* It is our intention to notice the pleadings in this case more fully in an early number.

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without being taught any, had his son, when a year old, shut up with a dumb nurse in a secluded house, which no one was allowed to approach who had the power of speaking. The child grew, and had attained his fourth year, without giving any signs of his being able to speak, when one day the father, while on a visit to him, was so much provoked by some occurrence as to utter an oath. The child caught the sound, and the words were recollected, and although the plan which had been so long persisted in was immediately abandoned, it was many months before the boy could be brought to repeat any other words than those of the abominable oath which he had first heard. We mention this anecdote merely to shew, that it is by practice we acquire the art of expressing our ideas in language, or vocal speech; and if the experiment was really made, it proves that language depends, in a great measure, upon imitation. Many individuals born deaf and dumb acquire the faculty of pronouncing every word of the language they are taught, but, from having no idea of sound, their accent is grating to our ears. They possess no means of regulating their tones, and, therefore, are not likely to make much progress in the art of speaking. Yet, though those born deaf will for ever remain dumb, unless instructed in speech, we are convinced that two children, with the senses perfect, if left to themselves, will form a language of their own, in which they would communicate with as much ease, though not perhaps to the same extent, as in any language they might be taught. Of this fact a remarkable instance has come within our own sphere of observation, which we are ready to authenticate by a more particular account of names and dates,—of the place where, and the time when, if necessary. A small farmer in the south of Scotland had a son and daughter, who were nearly of the same age; they lived in a sequestered spot, and at a considerable distance from any other dwelling. As the father and mother of these children had the labours of their farm to attend to, they were, as soon as they were able to walk, left very much to themselves. They slept together during the night, and were accustomed to spend the day in pursuing their childish amusements in the fields. Left, therefore, in a great measure, to their own resources, they had invented names for almost every object that came under their observation; and we have often listened for hours to their prattle, without being able to comprehend a single word they said. As they grew up, however, and mingled with the world, they soon lost every trace of the language of their childhood, though for many years they retained something of a foreign tone and accent.

The progress which we make in the acquirement of language is very slow, even with all our senses perfect; but in children, the gradation from simple sounds to compound sentences is little attended to. It is the frequent and varied repetition of the same word that first impresses it upon the tender memory of the infant, and the desire of imitation that leads him to articulate the sound which he has heard. Yet many months pass over before he makes use of any thing but simple syllables to express his wishes or his wants. It having been our lot, more than once, to be cast, as it were alone, among a strange people, whose language we were ignorant of, and without any means of acquiring it, except by the ear, we have felt what it was to study under such circumstances, and have studied what we conceive to have been the process we underwent in our infancy, and reflected on some of the difficulties which, even with the faculties matured, and the senses perfect, we had to undergo in bringing the organs of speech to give utterance to sounds so new to the ear. We can, therefore, form some idea of the labour of the instructor who attempts to teach the deaf to speak. It is much easier to teach them any written language, which, in fact, is only a different version of the language of signs, and dependant altogether upon the memory; but, as we cannot pursue this subject at greater length, we can only recommend, to such of our readers as may have an opportunity, to visit the institution in this city, which is under the superintendance of Mr Kinniburgh, and which is open to the public every Wednesday, between the hours of twelve and one. This institution was formed, in 1810, by a few of our benevolent fellow-citizens, and has been liberally

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supported by the voluntary contributions of several of the nobility and by annual subscriptions. There are now fifty pupils in the house; and the progress which many of them have made in every branch of useful education is truly astonishing. At the same time that their education is going on, several of the boys have been bound to trades, by which, in after life, they will be able to gain a livelihood; while the girls are instructed by Mrs Kinniburgh in sewing, knitting, and household affairs, so as to render them useful as well as intelligent members of society.

Every day adds something new to our stock of knowledge, which tends to shew, not only how little we know, but often how ill able we are to account for or explain even that little. The auditory nerve, which is the medium of communication between the mind and the external world, in as far as that communication depends upon the sense of hearing, is found in all animals, from man down to the lowest scale of fishes; and, even when an organ of hearing has not been distinguishable, it is evident that the animals are endowed with this sense. We may state it as a general law, that the apparatus of hearing becomes more complex in proportion as the organ approaches to perfection. This is the case with regard to the external as well as to the internal ear. Many animals hear better than man, and in them we find that the apparatus upon which the simple transmission of sound depends is also more perfect than it is in the human species. Newborn children are perfectly insensible to sound, for in them the sense of hearing is not yet active. It improves by degrees, and in proportion to the developement of the organs. But the deafness of old people does not depend so much upon the blunted sensibility of the nerve as on the general decay of the auditory apparatus. In young and healthy persons, anatomists tell us the auditory nerve is expanded in a humour which occupies the cavities of the internal ear; but in old people this humour is diminished, and the nerve itself becomes of a shrivelled and shrunk appearance.

These observations naturally lead us to inquire into the nature of perfect deafness. This, we are told, depends either upon a deranged or diseased state of the component parts of the external or of the internal ear, or (what we conceive will be found most frequently to be the case) of the auditory nerve in its connection with the brain, or in its passage to or expansion upon the parts which form the organ of hearing. It is very seldom that we can discover any difference between the external ear of those who are deaf and those who hear. In some cases deafness may depend upon a diseased state of the brain itself; but in such instances the other external senses are also blunted or deficient, and the individual belongs to the worst class of idiots. It is to be regretted that the pathology of the ear has not met with the degree of attention which it justly merits; for deafness, as a congenital affection, is very frequent in this country. Our labours hitherto have been chiefly directed to the procuring of a remedy for the dumbness, or that want of the faculty of speech which is the natural consequence of being born deaf; and the extent to which these labours have been successful we have already endeavoured to point out, as well as to state some of the difficulties which those who have attended to it have had to overcome. Those who are dumb, merely because they are deaf, are observed in general to have the organs of the other senses in a very perfect state. They are endowed with a more than ordinary share of intellect, and hence the facility with which difficulties, in ordinary circumstances almost insurmountable, are overcome with regard to them.

So far back as the 16th century, one Pedro de Ponce, a Spanish Benedictine Monk, is celebrated for having instructed the deaf and dumb, and for having taught them to speak. But we read no where of any great effort that has been made, either in ancient or modern times, to cure deafness. In this country, the earliest instructor of the deaf and dumb was Mr Thomas Braidwood, and he is said to be the first person in Great Britain who opened a regular academy for that purpose; but such were the prejudices of parents and guardians, if we are to believe the report of the times, that he found more difficulty in convincing them of the possibility of instructing the deaf and dumb, than in

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communicating knowledge to the individuals themselves.

We know it is the opinion of some, that deafness, like many other diseases, is hereditary; but if we are to judge from the facts which have come to our knowledge, we should be inclined to give a different verdict. We are aware, that there is one distinguished family in this kingdom, in which it has been traced to something like an hereditary descent, generally passing over one generation, and appearing in the second; but this is a solitary instance, while we can produce hundreds of families in the kingdom, in which there are one or more deaf children, and with regard to whom there is not the smallest trace of any of their ancestors having laboured under a similar defect. Our own decided opinion is, that the occurrence of deafness is altogether accidental, and owing to the position or state of the fœtus *in utero*. Some say it is owing to the effect of impressions upon the mind of the mother during the period of gestation, and we know that many mothers are decidedly of this opinion. We will allow that such impressions may have a *mediate* effect upon the state or condition of the child, in altering its position, or in the change of relative parts. But it is too absurd to suppose, that they can have any immediate effect, or tend in any other way to produce the complaint. To those who are inclined to pursue this subject, we would mention, that there is something peculiar in the form of the heads of deaf and dumb persons. They are all more or less elongated and compressed at the sides. In some this conformation is more evident than in others; but in so far as we have had an opportunity of observing, it prevails universally in all cases where the external ear is perfect. From the information which we at present possess, we believe there are several hundreds of individuals in Scotland who were born deaf, consequently dumb; but on this subject we shall have accurate information as soon as the valuable report on the state of the poor, which was ordered by the last General Assembly, is completed. Of upwards of two thousand idiots in the kingdom, not more than thirty or forty are deaf and dumb; and what is rather singular, there are more idiots dumb without being deaf, that what may be considered dumb from being deaf. We would also mention another fact which seems pretty well ascertained, namely, that if the first child of a family is born deaf, one or more of the succeeding children will have the same defect; and although there are instances where a deaf and dumb father has had a deaf and dumb child, yet it more frequently happens that there are two, three, four, and even five children in the same family born deaf and dumb, without there being the least reason to suspect that it had ever occurred in any of their progenitors. We will only mention the poor woman whose case gave rise to these rather heterogeneous remarks. She was the mother of three children, who were born with all their senses perfect. Her sister, who is also deaf and dumb, is the mother of two, yet none of them have any defect in the organs of hearing; indeed, we do not know of a single instance where a deaf and dumb mother has produced a deaf and dumb child, though we do not hesitate to say, that they are just as likely to have children with this defect as other women; they are as liable to be of that form and make which prevents the developement of the head of the fœtus, in a lateral direction, as other females.

It was long, and still is, a prevailing opinion among the common people of this country, that dumb persons possess the power of seeing into futurity, and can foretell, with much certainty, the fate of individuals. This knowledge of "coming events" is to be ascribed altogether, we imagine, to the unusual degree of intelligence which, as children, they possess, and to that superstition which is natural to the uninformed mind. We once knew a dumb sybil, who was supposed to be wonderfully gifted with the art of divination; and shall conclude this paper with an account of the circumstance upon which her celebrity was founded. Though only a child of seven years of age, she was sitting at supper with her father and mother, and a few friends, who had spent the "fore-sipper" in "cracking with the gude man," as was customary for neighbours some fifty or sixty years ago, when two honest farmers called in, on their way home from the market, where they had been

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disposing of some of their superfluous stock. From the moment they entered the house, *Mary* seemed to eye them with a kind of melancholy attention. She made signs to her father to insist upon their remaining all night, and seemed very urgent that they should occupy her bed. They, however, paid no attention to the "dumb ween's" whims, but set out on their journey homewards. They had no sooner left the house than *Mary* burst into tears. She made a hole in the ashes on the hearth similar to a grave, and intimated, by her cries and gestures, that the hour of these two men was at hand. About a mile from the house of Mary's father, they had to cross a river, and, as she had foretold, the passage-boat was overset by a sheet of floating ice, and they were both drowned. The actions of the dumb girl had such an effect upon her father and his friends, that they, fearing some accident was to befall their acquaintances, left the house and followed them with the intention of prevailing upon them to return back; but, though they made every possible haste, they only reached the banks of the river to witness the last struggles of the unfortunate sufferers, and to assist in searching for their lifeless bodies. Such is the tale we have often been told by one who was a witness to the whole circumstances, and who, as long as *Mary* was in life, was a firm believer in her supernatural powers.

REPORT ON THE PRESENT STATE OF FEVER IN EDINBURGH.

MR EDITOR,

I SHOULD very willingly comply with your request to contribute a periodical report upon the diseases prevalent in Edinburgh, if I considered myself competent to the discharge of such a task, and if I could satisfy myself that such a report would be either useful or fit for a Magazine, which is intended for general readers. I am very far from thinking that the profession should be wrapt up in mystery, or that all access to some acquaintance with its principles should be denied to the general reader. But much discretion must be used in introducing medical discussions into a popular work, not only on account of the indelicacy which is often inseparable from them, but also on account of positive bad effects which may arise either from spreading unnecessary alarm through the country, or from misconceptions of statements or misapplication of instruction by the half informed.

Popular medical instruction should be confined to what may be called *preventive medicine*, or a knowledge of the means of preventing disease, and checking it at its first approach, and to the correction of vulgar errors. For a Magazine occasional communications of this kind are well fitted, when there is reason to dread the introduction of a contagion, or during the prevalence of an epidemic, or when a hurtful practice is generally adopted. But to write a monthly or quarterly report of the diseases prevalent in Edinburgh, or any other large city, would be a *task* indeed, utterly useless, or worse than useless. The state of health in Edinburgh varies with the season, with the abundance or scantiness of the means of subsistence, with the introduction of a contagion, and some other general circumstances. But still that diversity is not such as to furnish matter for a series of popular reports for a succession of years. They would soon become uniformly uninteresting, or at least a mere repetition of what was formerly written, or would be filled with irrelevant and inappropriate discussions. I am aware, that, in opposition to this opinion, the admirable reports of Dr Willan upon the diseases of London may be quoted, which were inserted in the Monthly Magazine with so much success, that every Magazine now must have its medical report. But every physician is not a Dr Willan, and, accordingly, the effusions of many of his followers or imitators, are romances, dreams, or any thing but a true report of the diseases of the city which they profess to describe. To this censure there are certainly some honourable exceptions, but they are written for the profession, not for the public. The fact is, Dr Willan wrote for the profession, and his reports, collected into one volume, have become a valuable addition to the library of the physician. But even Dr Willan did not write a report of the diseases of London, but only of his own practice in the General Dispensary and in private, and this is all that any reporter

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can write from his own knowledge; so that a very different view of the diseases of the same place and period may be given, as the reporter is a person of great experience, and sees nothing unusual in the present times, is in practice in high or low life, or is an active practitioner attached to an Hospital or Dispensary, or writes from books more than from patients.

After such a preamble, it may seem inconsistent to send you a professional communication; but at present I wish to correct some vulgar errors, and to disseminate, through the medium of your Magazine, some precepts of preventive medicine.

A considerably greater degree of alarm has been spread among the higher classes of society, concerning the prevalence and danger of a fever in Edinburgh, than I think is necessary or well-founded; and, on the other hand, the lower classes are, as usual, too indifferent about the means of preventing it. The subject suggests a few questions, which I shall endeavour to answer.

Is fever unusually prevalent in Edinburgh? The answer to this question is not so easy as might be supposed. If we were to refer to the books of the Royal Infirmary and Dispensaries, the answer would undoubtedly be in the affirmative;* but if we refer to the private journal of practitioners not connected with public institutions, it might be doubtful. There are several reasons to explain why fever appears to be so much more prevalent at present than in past years;—the greater attention paid to the state of the sick poor, both by the Dispensaries rivalling each other in doing good, and the increased exertions of the active and humane Society for relieving the destitute sick. The consequence is, that almost every case of fever is brought to light, and is made a subject of conversation and remark in the circles of our active philanthropists. Next, the sick are no sooner discovered than, very properly, they are furnished with recommendations for admission into the Royal Infirmary, and advised, and often reluctantly induced to go to that useful asylum, which, we are happy to be informed, has, up to this time,* received every fever patient who has come to the waiting room, although, from the extraordinary exertions in sending in patients, it would not be wonderful if their accommodation and funds should have proved insufficient. From this cause, therefore, it is possible to account for the greater number of fever patients which have been received into the Royal Infirmary during the last twelve months, without any actual increase of the frequency of fever in Edinburgh. It is well known to practitioners, that this city is never altogether free from continued fever;† that it is always lurking in the

* Number of fever patients dismissed from the Royal Infirmary during each month of the present year.

	Cured.	Died.	Total.	One Death in
January	19	3	22	$7\frac{1}{3}$
February	17	0	17	0
March	18	1	19	19
April	38	2	40	20
May	34	4	38	$9\frac{1}{2}$
June	26	1	27	27
July	33	3	36	12
August	39	3	42	14
September	49	3	52	$17\frac{1}{3}$
October	53	1	54	54
	326	21	347	$16\frac{11}{21}$

The deaths from fever in 1815 and in 1816 were *twelve* in each year, but the number of fever patients dismissed cured in these years could not be ascertained.

* This was actually the case when this report was drawn up. But on the 25th of October the female wards were quite filled, and it was necessary to refuse the admission of a girl labouring under fever. Since that time, however, fever patients have been almost daily admitted and none refused. Several wards, besides the usual fever wards, have been appropriated to fever cases, and every exertion made to meet the pressure. It must also be remarked, that it has frequently been very difficult or impossible to dismiss the convalescents when they became no longer proper objects for an infirmary, especially the Irish and other strangers, from the total indigence of many of them, and their inability to work, so as to gain the means of even a scanty subsistence. In some instances, also, patients were detained a few days longer in the hospital, in consequence of the Society for relieving the destitute sick being engaged in cleaning and purifying their houses.

† The same may be said of almost every large town. In proof of this, we refer to the Report of the Fever Hospital in Dub-

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narrow closes and lodging houses of the poor; and that, from time to time, it has always increased to a lamentable degree of frequency. But formerly a very small proportion of the unhappy sufferers by it thought of going to the hospital, and there was no organized society for sending them in. For more than twenty years I have known continued fever always to exist, and often to a very great degree, in Portsburgh. I have examined the district, by the desire of the gentlemen connected with the House of Industry, with a view to get some of the dunghills removed, and found fever in almost every house. Upon one occasion, I remember visiting a close where almost every individual was ill, and in one house I found seven children affected, the father having gone to the hospital, where he died, and the mother only able to be out of bed, with the precursory symptoms upon her, and not a neighbour able to lend assistance; and yet, upon these occasions, the public in general heard nothing of the prevalence of fever. The knowledge of the misery it occasioned was confined to the attending practitioners and a few active philanthropists. In spring 1816, every one of the children in the West Kirk poorhouse, about 160, was attacked with fever, of whom two died, and between 30 or 40 of the aged poor, of whom more than a third died, yet its existence was scarcely known, except to the managers and officers of the charity. In the autumn of 1816, every child in the City Charity Work-house, 200 in number, was affected with fever, none of whom died, and about fifty other individuals belonging to that institution, of whom about one in twelve died. But, during this present season, not one person in either of these extensive asylums for the poor has been affected; nor, so far as I have been able to learn, has fever occurred in any other of the public institutions in which numbers of individuals are collected together for the education of the young, or for the relief of the aged. Therefore, from the mere increased number of admissions to the hospital, I would not positively conclude that there was an increased prevalence of fever.

Another reason why the public believe that fever is more prevalent is, that it has caused several deaths in the higher classes of society. This mortality is, I believe, extraordinary, and, so far as I can learn, during the present year, a larger proportion of deaths than usual has taken place among the rich, not only in Edinburgh, but all over the kingdom, and every death in this rank of society is known, and excites general lamentation and fear. But occasionally fever has been prevalent to a considerable degree, especially among the students of medicine. The present Professor of the Practice of Physic in the University mentions, in his lectures, an epidemic of this kind, which was the reason why the clinical lectures were transferred from the hospital to the University; and when I was student it prevailed epidemically among us for two successive years, in one of which upwards of thirty students and three clinical clerks, of whom I was one, were seized within a short time. In one year eleven medical students died of fever. Nothing comparable in extent has occurred among the students this year. I do not, however, mean to deny that fever has been, and still is, rather more prevalent than usual. I only wish to state my reasons for thinking that it is generally believed to be much more prevalent than it really is.

Is the continued fever at present in Edinburgh more malignant or severe than usual? To this question I am happy to be able to answer decidedly No. On the contrary, it may be rather denominated *slight*. The reports of its unusual malignity have arisen partly from the circumstance already alluded to, that several persons of the

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lin, by which it appears that the patients admitted were in

Years.	Numbers.	Average Deaths, One in
1804	422	$13\frac{2}{11}$
1805	1028	$10\frac{17}{1}$
1806	1272	$12\frac{27}{31}$
1807	1092	$11\frac{30}{31}$
1808	1072	$11\frac{9}{29}$
1809	1056	$13\frac{13}{20}$
1810	1774	$11\frac{14}{79}$
1811	1478	$12\frac{24}{115}$
1812	2273	$13\frac{4}{21}$
1813	2620	$10\frac{52}{163}$
1814	2398	$16\frac{113}{941}$
1815	3787	$19\frac{10}{191}$

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higher classes of society, and some of these under circumstances of extraordinary interest and regret, have fallen a sacrifice to it, and partly from a misconception of the meaning of the denomination *Typhus*, as applied to it by some medical men. In consequence of the theoretical opinions of Dr Cullen and Dr Brown, the idea of malignity, to a greater or less degree, was attached by them to the term Typhus, and *typhoid* was used to designate that state of fever in which the powers of reaction, or of vitality, were deficient, as characterised by the presence of certain symptoms, and with them typhus and typhoid were always associated with danger. But typhus is now used by many physicians, and I think more correctly, as a proper name to designate a particular kind of continued fever, (the common continued fever of this country, capable of being communicated by contagion,) without any reference to its degree of mildness or severity, so that they speak of a slight or severe typhus; and, according to this understanding of the term, I would say that Edinburgh is never altogether free from typhus; and that the typhus of this year has been, among the lower classes, milder than usual, although it is seldom very severe in Edinburgh.

Is the fever at present in Edinburgh contagious in its nature? This is a question of the greatest importance to the community, because an erroneous opinion on this point is attended with great and public evils. It may either cause unnecessary alarm, or prevent the necessary precautions for arresting its progress from being taken. To those not of the profession, or unacquainted with its controversies, it may appear strange that there should be any dispute whether any disease be contagious or not; yet it so happens that this most important fact is still unascertained with regard to the greatest number of the most important diseases; and the doubt does not arise from want of observation, but from the difficulty, perhaps the impossibility, of analyzing the various circumstances and conditions of the propagation and generation of disease. Thus, we find plague, yellow-fever, puerperal-fever, ague, dysentery, chincough, influenza, consumption, as well as sur typhus, maintained to be indubitably contagious by some physicians, and as positively declared to be certainly not contagious by others, and both parties appeal for the truth of their opinions to their own personal and abundant experience. As far as my experience goes, and as far as I am able to judge from the facts I have witnessed and read of, I am inclined to think a kind of middle opinion to be the true one in regard to typhus, viz. that it sometimes proceeds from the concurrence of occasional causes of disease independent of contagion, such as fatigue, want, distress of mind, intemperance, cold, foul air, &c. and that it more frequently is propagated by contagion or effluvia generated in and emanating from a person labouring under the disease; in short, that typhus is sometimes primary, sometimes propagated. But while I thus believe typhus to be a contagious disease, for the effluvia of even primary typhus are capable of communicating the disease, I also believe that it is only contagious under certain conditions and circumstances, or that it is not what may be called a very contagious disease. I believe that it is most easily communicated in a confined and foul atmosphere, where many diseased persons are collected, and to persons previously debilitated by fatigue, want, &c.; that it acts only at a very limited distance from the diseased person, and that it requires exposure to its influence to be continued for a certain length of time. Further, many persons, especially those who have already passed through the disease, seem to be proof against, and capable of resisting it under every circumstance. If these opinions be correct, there are sufficient grounds for taking due precaution to prevent the propagation of disease, while, on the other hand, there are no grounds for general alarm. The fever is sufficiently contagious to suggest the impropriety of unnecessary exposure to the effluvia proceeding from the bodies of the sick, but not so highly contagious as to deter us from giving them every attention and assistance which may be useful to them, or to authorize any harsh or hurtful regulations for cutting off all communication with the diseased.

I shall conclude these observations, already perhaps too long, with requesting you to insert the following

"*Instructions, drawn up under the direction of the medical gentlemen*

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of the Fever Hospital in Dublin, in order to prevent Infection.

"*Signs of Fever.*—For one or two days the person affected cannot bear exertion, loathes food, sometimes vomits whatever is taken into the stomach; a general sense of uneasiness, rather than pain, is felt; a wish to lie down, yet a restlessness when in bed, or sometimes sleepiness.

"To these succeed shivering, with a sense of coldness, while to a bystander the skin feels hot; thirst, pain of head and back, and very generally a feel of weight about the stomach.

"*Treatment.*—At any time within the first three days, give a vomit of hippo, (Ipecacuan,) mixed in a teacup full of warm water, and work it off with thin oatmeal gruel. If the belly be costive, give a common house clyster, and repeat it every day, if necessary. Let the drink be two milk whey,* or thin gruel, to each quart of which add a tea-spoonful of cream of tartar. No other medicine or food should be given till signs of weakness, or a cool skin, with appetite, come on. In the former case give a little wine or weak punch; in the latter, frumenty and milk, which should be very *cautiously* and *gradually* changed to more nourishing diet during recovery, as relapses are often the consequence of over-eating at this period.

"If fixed pain be felt in the breast or any other part, a blister should be applied over it. The face and hands should be washed and kept clean with warm water and soap, and the bedclothes kept clean; the apartment should (at every stage of the fever) be kept cool, and with as few persons besides the attendants as possible. Should a great disposition to sweat appear within the first five or six days, the room should be kept cool, but still not warm.* During the whole sickness the floor and clothes should be frequently sprinkled with vinegar.

"N. B. Bleeding should hardly ever be employed, (unless prescribed by a regular medical attendant.)

"*To guard against Infection.*—Immediately after the recovery, removal, or death of the patient, let all the doors and windows be thrown open, and remain so for several hours.

"Let the house or room be immediately cleansed; all dirty clothes, utensils, &c. should be immersed in cold water. The bed-clothes, and all clothes used by the sick person, and every one about him, should also be steeped in cold water, then wrung out and washed in warm water, with soap; and every box, chest, drawer, &c. in the house or room, should be emptied and cleansed.

"If you lie on straw beds, let the straw be immediately burned, and fresh straw provided, and the ticken steeped in cold water, and dried well before it is used again; and let your beds, of whatever kind, be exposed to open air as much as possible for a week.

"Whitewash all your rooms, and the entrance to them, with lime, slacked in them, and while it continues bubbling and hot.

"Scrape your floor with a shovel, and wash clean both it and your furniture.

"Keep yourself in open air as much as possible for a week.

"Wash your face, and hands, and feet, and comb your hair every morning at least.

"N. B.—The benefit of this advice you will soon feel, and, persevering in your attention to it, will, under God, preserve you from all the variety of wretchedness occasioned by infectious fevers. Attend to it then with spirit and punctuality, for be assured, that cleanliness will check disease, improve your health and strength, and increase your comfort."

A. D. *J.*

* An excellent drink commonly given to fever patients in Dublin, composed of equal parts of sweet and butter milk. The former is made to boil, and then poured upon the latter, when the curd of both is coagulated and easily separated from the light and grateful whey.

* This is evidently a *misprint*. It should evidently be, "the room should not be kept too cool, but still not warm," or, "the room should be kept cool, but still not cold."

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REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Round Table, a Collection of Essays on Literature, Men, and Manners. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. 8vo. 2 vols. 1817. Constable, Edinburgh, Longman, London.

Characters of Shakespeare's Plays. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. 8vo. pp. 352. London, 1817. Hunter and Ollier.

JOSEPH SCALIGER said, "Les Ecossois sont bons philosophes." The *terra incognita* of the intellectual world has much decreased since the time of that literary hero. Without vanity, or weak national feelings, we may aver, that the Scots have had their share in this desirable improvement; and have continued to merit his encomium by keeping pace at least with the march of genius elsewhere. To ascertain the limits, and appreciate the varieties of human genius, is a task which, without meaning or pretending to offer a hint on it ourselves, we venture to assert has not been often or happily attempted by the mercurial wits of our day. In the plenitude of their powers, they have found this task, so flattering to the pride of intellect, rather extensive and laborious for them. Our own countrymen afford, we think, a good subject for this kind of distinctive delineation. Though reckoned still philosophers, they are not particularly rich in that kind of acquired knowledge which is called scholarship; and, though rather indisposed either to such exertions as tend to those acquirements which constitute the *learned* character, or to the admiration of them in other people, are not deficient in pursuing truth through a long train of research, nor in eliciting it, by that power of the mind which is exerted in the act of generalization, from the accumulated labours of those who have gone before them. As a nation of talkers and disputers on religion and politics, they have been remarkable for "that unsettled speculative mode of conversation" of which Johnson complained. In their set reasonings, they are perhaps too contemptuous of facts, and too eager to get at a conclusion before the proper time. We have been tempted also to think that this did not arise so much from the sanguine quickness and vivacity in which they have been compared to the French, as from a stark love of paradox. This affection for hypothesis, as the sad experience of many of our neighbours can attest, would appear to be inherited from the very mother's milk sucked in by Scotsmen. To say merely that Scotsmen are fond of theory would not be enough. The plain matter of fact men are, after all, the most inveterate theorists of any. It is that sort of deception, even in extremes, and thinking to catch truth by processes equally short and safe, which leads people to like *this* and *that*, without the trouble of giving the *why* and the *wherefore*. By those, therefore, who boast of their own caution in reasoning, and constant attention to facts, it is certain that the venerable name of Theory has been much abused by a too constant application of it to the casual and careless lucubrations of men like-minded with our countrymen. Thus are we led to characterize whole classes of men by a few high-sounding words, merely because they are a little more inquisitive than ourselves, and because they may thus happen to take a longer or more circuitous route for coming at the truth. We forget, all the while, that they adopt a most excellent process for opening up new directions, or framing unexpected combinations, of thought. More than all the speculative faults of our countrymen could be forgiven them by their free-souled neighbours, provided they were a little less exclusive in their intellectual habits. But the Scots have never yet become witty. They are rather apt, in the way of criticism, to dissect a man's pretensions unmercifully, and take him to pieces with a bitter tone of sarcasm that offends, and wounds, and rankles. There is a saturnine air,—a sardonic and not self-satisfied sneer about their humour. They are more caustic than tickling in their attacks. The pastoral qualities of that rude and unmusical *patois*, which they call their *dialect*, is favourable to the expression of broad

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humour,—and in that they get on pretty well,—when they dare attempt it without the fear of being deemed foolish. But, for that again, they are more cynical than alert in their retorts. They cannot play round a subject. They must grasp and wrench it in the downright earnestness of their natures.—But of this enough.

Our readers, it is presumed, have such confidence in our wisdom as to believe that we could not have said all this for nothing; and, we can freely confess that we have brought in these remarks rather a little forcibly, it must be allowed,—only to shew our own moderation and caution in speaking of how people think, and what they say at this day in Old England. We have been fairly led into them, by natural association, from the perusal of those agreeable volumes whose titles appear at the head of this article, and which, in spirit and temper, abound with characteristics so different from those which distinguish the compositions of Scotsmen.

It may be observed, probably, that it savours of affectation to get up, in three expensive volumes, a series of newspaper criticisms,—and that the criticisms themselves, from their tone and style, are not fit to be considered as polite literature. This will be the language of those who are disposed to contemn Mr Hazlitt. But it is enough for the character of these intelligent and most cheerful compositions, that the public itself,—the ultimate and greatest judge of merit, has already decided in their favour.

Mr Hazlitt is not one of the most acute thinkers on every subject; neither is he the most profound expositor of the theory of literature which the present times, prolific enough in talent of that sort, have produced. But he is a man with a great deal of elegant knowledge,—with a wide range of illustration and reference in polite letters. In his airy and brief discussions, we sometimes desiderate harmony and fulness of view, or precision of thought. But there is never any want of directness. He gives a number of extraneous elements and extreme points,—not bound together easily by any common tie, and not very specially designated for their various purposes. They are placed together with great sharpness and spirit, and merely named for a purpose of his own, as if that alone were enough to denote their power and application at all points. We cannot say, on the whole, that they are misplaced; but we may complain that they are not seldom put down with the carelessness of one who sees a certain length and instantly,—but who is more solicitous about the grasp and generality of his idea than about the severe affinity of its relations, or the accuracy of its expression.

The Round Table bears his name. But part of it was written—and some of the best parts also, we think, by Mr Leigh Hunt. In the manner of the title-page, however, we shall make Mr Hazlitt the principal person; and, as the book on Shakespeare is wholly his, we shall merely name what we think the best essays of the Round Table, and then proceed with that general account of him as a writer to which the joint consideration of the two books has fairly given rise.

The best papers in the Round Table, as they occur to us, are those *On the tendency of Sects—On Manner* (a good compound of all that we have noted in Mr Hazlitt)—*On Chaucer—On the Causes of Methodism—On the Beggar's Opera—On Common-Place People—On Mr Kean's Iago—A Day by the Fireside—Characters of John Bull, and of Mr Pitt, and of Rousseau—On the Literary Character—On Washerwomen—On Gusto.* But these, of course, will be marked according to the different tastes and peculiar associations of different persons. It would be minute and tedious trifling to point out or defend our sense of their beauties.

Mr Hazlitt seems to have been early aware, that a writer on subjects of taste and the lighter departments of morals, requires, in addition to a fund of ingenuity, that, to use a peculiar phrase, *he should have all his wits about him.* Men, without having become a whit more sensitive or fanciful, are now so sagacious, that it is extremely difficult for an essayist to say how he shall attack them. "Le public," as M. Say observes, "Le public demande à un écrivain dont il achète le livre, de lui donner du neuf; et le public se fâche quand on lui donne quelque chose qui choque les idées reçues; cette contradiction est sur-tout bien sensible en morale, où tout ce qui est reçu, est excessive-

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ment commun, et où tout ce qui ne l'est pas, fait rejaillir toujours un certain degré de blâme sur l'écrivain qui le hasarde"* Mr Hazlitt escapes all this; and while he eschews every thing that is flat or common-place—he is such as we have endeavoured faithfully to represent him in the following very slight and obvious considerations.

Mr Hazlitt is very far from being a simple writer, and yet he is, perhaps, the most pleasing chastiser of the lighter follies of mankind,—the best critic on the proper gout for painting,—and on the tasteful appreciation and fanciful adjustment of the drama. He is the best writer of a short essay since Goldsmith,—only he cares less about seriously hurting worthy prejudices or respectable weaknesses,—and has infinitely less aversion from bustle or pretension. In this latter respect, indeed, he is quite up to the tone of the age, and gives judgments, and comes to conclusions, or deals censures, with great rapidity and decision. One great charm about him is the apparently unconscious gravity, and deep tone of absolute impression and responsibility with which he dispatches all the trifling details of his subject, and all the fleeting interests and well-turned small talk with which a critic on actors and plays has to deal. He is, in this respect, all in all. He thinks no more of questioning the depth and interest of his discussions, than M. De La Place would of making a doubt concerning his investigation of the problem of the three bodies, or his theorems of the eccentricities of the planetary orbits. He does not seek to *cover* his assertions, or to justify them by any very minute process of defence. He throws them out, and leaves the adjustment and harmonising of them to the taste or caprice of his various readers. All this is clearly what is wanted in a critic who attempts to guide the public opinion, or to excite discussion on the lesser departments of criticism, or the more transient topics of taste. And the consequence is, that these essays were more generally read, and excited a wider interest when they first appeared in the Examiner, than any thing of the kind which had been produced for many years.

An essay is not expected to contain the developement of a theory, or the complete exposition of ultimate truth. Its object is to excite others to think for themselves, or, by the exhibition of agreeable imagery, and the use of smart allusion, to make them pleased with the labour of thinking.* If Mr H. does not expound any new or beautiful theory,—he certainly conveys more vivid images, in a slight and unpretending shape, and in the smallest compass, than any other periodical writer we know. If he pushes his view of a question in taste or manners rather farther than a more grave critic would venture, or than the judicious or fastidious among his readers can go along with him,—there is in all he says so much frankness and good humour, that his paradoxes are never distasteful. He never sneers at common men,—nor speaks with contempt of their humble vocations, or disgust at their harmless though unenlightened propensities. He frequently discovers, and, in short, never omits to express, where there is occasion or opportunity for it,—a warm regard and a noble-minded respect for the happiness and liberties of the great mass of human beings. His power of throwing a shade of tasteful and amusing illustration over the most common topics, from all parts of learning, and especially from the whole range of poetry, eloquence, painting, and the drama, is not equalled, we believe, by any popular writer of these times. He seems always to have in his eye that cutting remark of M. Say, "Entre un penseur, et un érudit il y a la même différence qu'entre un

* We have uncommon pleasure in referring to a work of light and agreeable literature, published the other day in Paris. "PETIT VOLUME contenant quelques apperçus Des Hommes, et de la Société. *Par Jean Baptiste Say*, De l'Academie Imperiale de Saint-Petersbourg." The first political economist of his day appears in that little book as a person of genuine wit and acuteness of observation, and a lover and a successful cultivator of the *belles-lettres*.

* Hume is the writer who unites the deepest thought with the winning graces of classical language and the various charms of harmonious composition. A great critic of our own time and country, is the man who stimulates the most thought, and simplifies the exposition of a theory in the smallest space.

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livre et une table des matières,"—and would appear to regard his learning very little, if it did not afford him the instruments for putting those about him in better humour with themselves. He seems not to have the smallest portion of the intellectual saturnine about him,—and, while his object is to furnish ordinary men with those fruits, in which, perhaps, after all, consist the only enviable results of erudition,—he is no pedant himself, and seems to view it in others with that easy contempt which is more likely to put it down, than the angry impatience with which men of warm apprehensions are apt to meet it. He avows his sentiments, and the whole of them, with the fearless openness of an Englishman. He defers to no prejudices. He flatters no weaknesses. And all his efforts seem bent on producing in the world a greater stock of candour in judgment,—unpretending uprightness in conduct,—and feelings of tolerance and kindness towards the general mass of human beings. The scope and object of his writings, indeed, is to increase the sum of human happiness, by clearing and enlarging the avenues of elegant and innocent gratification. He labours to render common those noble inquiries of which Mr Payne Knight has remarked, in his forcible language, that they "bring the highest efforts of human taste or genius into a stronger or clearer light,—adding to the intellectual pleasures of man, which are certainly the most valuable belonging to his nature, because they can be at all times enjoyed without injury to health, fame, or fortune." * The certain effect of his good temper and well applied ridicule, is to pull down intolerance. His aim is to teach the religious part of the community to look at their erring brethren without hating them,—and those who have been at some pains to form tastes and habits, and opinions, not to suppose that they know all that is worth knowing,—or that the rest of mankind who do not see with their eyes, are either very stupid or very weak. This is the right tone for a public writer. It would be reason enough for us to like Mr Hazlitt, and to overlook his faults, even though he did not write with a vigour and brilliancy,—a tasteful, ornate, and uninflated eloquence,—and a rich natural vivacity, which are all, to an uncommon degree, the rightful praise and the natural possessions of his fine intellect.

There has been much sneering at Mr Hazlitt, and reproach of him for having dared to say, that he wrote "in the manner of the earlier periodical essayists, the Spectator and Tatler." Nothing, however, it appears to us, could be more absurd than this sneering, except the ineffective spleen and littleness of mind which gave rise to it. It would be unfair to institute a direct comparison between Addison and a favoured writer of this day, with all those advantages on his side, which the progress of science and philosophy has given to even the humblest of speculators. Good taste in manners and in literature also have descended to ranks in society lower than those at which they were fixed in Addison's day. This has given a prepared manner to those who write for the public. There is none of that lordly slovenliness or boobyishly condescending carelessness of manner, or privileged contempt of method in argument, which characterized the Buckinghams, the Halifaxes, and the Shaftesburys, while there is less of the raciness and persuaded intensity of Molesworth. The standard of taste must still fluctuate. Ideas, however, are more fixed; and there is less palliation, and less excuse for haste, or indolence, or indistinctness. We venerate the name of Addison. We think that there is something of the bland and calm,—the benevolent and ingenuous,—the real *atticism* of polite letters, associated with it. There was a grace and chasteness in every thing which he wrote,—something, in fact, which, if the repose and coldness of marble could speak,—is very like the air and attitude of his statue in Westminster Abbey. He is the author of the finest allegorical vision in our language. But, Mr Hazlitt's writings are incomparably fuller of ideas than Addison's. He cannot even jest with a subject without letting out notions and fragments of thought as it were, which have an *incidence* which shews them to be the product of a philosophical observer. He condenses, we repeat it, a great

* See "*An Analytical Essay on the Greek Alphabet.*" Lond. 4to, 1791.

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many ideas on subjects of taste and letters, in a small space. Addison's thoughts hung too loosely about him. His fulness of language,—his quantity of words,—the cloying redundance of his expression, are, it strikes us, inadequate to the result of ideas which they convey. He has seldom that precision of thought which stirs thought in others. His wit is wire-drawn, and his mirth languid. Mr Hazlitt is a different writer. And, moreover, we are quite sure he did not refer to Addison from any undue presumption, or any disrespect to him as the father of our periodical literature.

In every thing which Mr Hazlitt writes there is much of the ease and unstudied variety of conversation;—only that the flow of language is more ornate,—the transitions smoother,—and, in the painter's term, better *shaded in*. We have no doubt, in short, that many essays in the Round Table are fair copies of his table-talk. We know, at least, that the essay on Methodism, one of the most poignant and effective pieces of satire in the shape of essay, was delivered at a literary *converzatione* in London, nearly verbatim as it appears; the dialogue on Mr Hazlitt's part, beginning "The first methodist on record was David. He was the first eminent person we read of who made a regular compromise between religion and morality, between faith and good works."

We should guess him to be just that sort of man who could open well a debateable question, and mark out its bearings and relations in the way best calculated to excite discussion. But he might possibly appear to less advantage, if a keen and adroit questioner were to press home on him for the reason of his faith. He would be better in attack than in reply. He would appear, also, to most advantage after men of nice belief, and formal distinctions, had exhausted their common-places of good faith. He is fond of cutting at right angles into a subject, and making short work of his conclusions. His talent, however, does not appear to be that of simplifying. He is dogmatically facetious. He is not lazy-minded, though, like other dogmatists: He does not trifle away his time in clothing old saws with vehement amplification, and vigorous language;—he produces his results by a happy grouping of conceptions, and a simple combination of thought;—he comes to the end of his logic sooner than we could wish. His process is so direct, and rests on so few expletive circumstances, or qualifying conditions, that we come to the belief with which he wishes to inspire us, not with the slow and interrupted pleasure of professed investigation, but we rather receive impressions with the vividness of a poetical figure of eloquence, or the soothing titillation which can be conveyed by a witty man who gives the best wine, and points all his jokes in support of the side we like best. This costs a much greater expenditure of the energies of the thinking principle, and goes into an infinitely smaller space than the wire-drawn statements, and technically supported ingenuity, of writers who have neither quickness of spirit, nor comprehension of sympathy, to trust their first impressions.

As a writer on art, Mr Hazlitt's power has been greatly shewn. Here he has, by a rare felicity of language, found means to express all the capricious ideas, and minute distinctions, and to arrest all the fleeting impressions which enter into our judgment of a picture, or constitute the pleasures we receive from painting. His sentences sparkle with imagery. It is true that he too often appears familiar or affected, and sometimes uses freedoms with language which it can hardly bear. But his illustrations are so profuse and happy, that he gives to a criticism on a picture the inventiveness and spirit-stirring facility of poetry, without losing the propriety of prose. We would offer him a tribute in his own way by saying, that he attends not merely to the graceful grouping of his figures, and the proper distribution of his lights and shadows, but elaborates with care the minutest objects, and brings out distinctly, by a happy stroke, all the adjuncts and paraphernalia of his representation. He is a foe to formality, and a determined lover of gaiety. His air is perhaps rather free and familiar,—his manner *tranchant*. His art, however, it is fair to say, might be defined, on the whole, as that of making slight and trivial things the object of serious discussion, rather than of the easy and familiar explication of great subjects. His is an acute mind

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rendering ordinary matters the vehicle of subtle thought, or subjecting them to rhetorical definition. We see the spectacle of a man of great powers taking a perverse pleasure in winding to his purposes the docility of common apprehensions. He is a giant stooping to lift a feather. As to his ingenuity, we may apply to it language which we dare say will be recognized. "Hazlitt, Sir! is one of a set of men who account for every thing systematically; for instance, it has been a fashion to wear scarlet breeches; these men would tell you, that, according to causes and effects, no other wear could at that time have been chosen." It is to the existence of such writers as these, however, joined with the indescribable action of political events in moulding human thought, that we are to look for the main causes which, in this country, have given a more ambitious and decided turn to our critical system, and a more vigorous and elevated tone to our periodical literature, than that which justified the admiration of our immediate predecessors for the wit and philosophy of the golden age of Queen Anne.

The writers in the Round Table appear to have read the Italian poets, especially Dante, * with such care, as to be able to refer to them very effectually, on occasions for which the beaten range of hackneyed quotation could not possibly lend equal power to their illustrations, or force to the meaning they wish to convey. Indeed, the Examiner has been remarkable for its numerous and apt quotations from Italian literature. It was with some indignation, therefore, that we saw it stated in a contemporary work, that Mr Hunt's knowledge in that department "is confined to a few of the most popular of Petrarch's sonnets, and an imperfect acquaintance with Ariosto, through the medium of Mr Hoole." This could only be the statement of one who has had no personal or direct opportunity of estimating the literary pretensions of Mr Hunt and Mr Hazlitt. Except through the hearsay of very second-hand persons, he can know nothing of the habits or acquirements of these gentlemen. And, if the freedom of their political sentiments, and their truly English strain of independence, had not made enemies to them in many quarters, whence enmity could not have proceeded from sound judgment, or right principle, we should have been surprised, as well as offended, at such an instance of want of common discretion, joined with an utter disregard of common candour, or critical fairness. The impudent harshness, and rude vulgarity, of the whole paper, of which this averment was a part, are, in fact, so excessive, so obtrusive, and transparent, that they of themselves sufficiently indicate a source to which no information of the personal habits of Mr Leigh Hunt or Mr Hazlitt could possibly have reached, except at third or fourth hand. The Messrs Hunts were educated at Christ's Hospital, and were early initiated into more of the best of ancient literature than is at all common among the raw-headed young men who fret their little hour in the lowest ranks of those professions to which, in this provincial town, the epithet learned is applied with a most ludicrous exclusiveness and impropriety. *

In the trade to which we at present

* There is a set of authors more admired than read. *Dante* is almost the chief of these. We believe it was Voltaire who said wittily and truly, that *Dante owed his fame to his obscurity*. It shews a laudable curiosity in a modern critic, when he reads such an author, and extends his fame by imparting a relish of him to his own readers.

* Far be it from us to attach any importance to those school acquirements which one fool may have, and another want, just as the chance is. But they who put their strength in these studies, must stand or fall by their proficiency in them. The Blue Coat School, and other foundations for learning in England, comparing them with the schools of Edinburgh and Glasgow, will be found to produce, number for number, *at least as many* well-grounded scholars,—more men of open and independent character,—and certainly not fewer of sound and serviceable attainments. Now, it would be strange if any man, not a better scholar than those, (allowing him, for the sake of argument, to be as good,) should say that they knew Homer only through a translation, *when they quoted him in Greek!* It is equally strange, and not a whit more honest, for a man who knows absolutely nothing of the private studies of these writers, to say, that they cannot read Italian, because they quote Dante in his native tongue!!

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allude, Mr Hunt is, with equal elegance and propriety, reproached for having "*extremely vulgar modes of thinking, and manners in all respects.*" Of the author of this tirade we know nothing. But, we trust, with a seriousness proportioned to our respect for them, that he may turn out to be a person neither of genius nor of liberal political leanings. For what man of whiggish attachments would not be ashamed of such a drivelling assertion as this: "All the great poets of our country have been men of some rank in society, and there is no vulgarity in any of their writings; but Mr Hunt cannot utter a dedication, or even a note, without betraying the *shibboleth* of low birth and low habits?" It is hard to believe that any man of sound taste, of real honesty, or of unsophisticated principles of any sort, could have spoken of another as this writer has done of Mr Hunt,—*apparently* from the mere vulgar love of scandal,—or the still more vulgar, slavish, and contemptible motive of administering to that base appetite in others. His definition, or implied notion of vulgarity, is sufficiently striking. A vulgar man, he thinks, is one who has wrought his way in society independently, without truckling or chicane; and who comes, at length, by the mere force of superior genius, taste, talent, and application, to have an influence on public opinion. This influence, be it remembered, he uses consistently, from first to last, for the service of public liberty. Of course, he is *not* a member of a *learned profession*. By the mental law of association, things suggest their contraries. Let us see what is a polished man by this rule of reverses. He must be one that cannot help being born of parents pretty well to do in the world. One who has been breeched, in his boyhood, into a little bad prosody, and some imperfect verbal criticism. One who, by dint of favour and acquaintanceship, gets bolstered up to a standing in the lower ranks of a *learned* profession, (already overstocked with helpless aspirants,) from which he may never emerge during a life of drawling insignificance and submission, except through such patronage as the *political* part of the profession can afford to him!

After having entered, at such length, into what we conceive to be the general characteristics of Mr Hazlitt's writings, it would be absurd to give any minute criticism on books which are in every one's hands. We cannot, however, resist quoting a passage from the review of Mr Wordsworth's *Excursion*. That paper alone has had the merit of treating the great worth of that extraordinary person with fairness and philosophy, without sanctioning any of his weaknesses, or overlooking his faults. The following part is remarkable for a chaste and powerful eloquence:

——————— "Yet the pity of my heart
Prevents me not from owning that the law,
By which mankind now suffers, is most just.
For by superior energies; more strict
Affiance in each other; faith more firm
In their unhallowed principles; the bad
Have fairly earned a victory o'er the weak,
The vacillating, inconsistent good."

"In the application of these memorable lines we should, perhaps, differ a little from Mr Wordsworth; nor can we indulge with him in the fond conclusion afterwards hinted at, that one day *our* triumph, the triumph of humanity and liberty, may be complete. For this purpose we think several things necessary which are impossible. It is a consummation which cannot happen till the nature of things is changed, till the many become as united as the *one*, till romantic generosity shall be as common as gross selfishness, till reason shall have acquired the obstinate blindness of prejudice, till the love of power and of change shall no longer goad man on to restless action, till passion and will, hope and fear, love and hatred, and the objects proper to excite them, that is, alternate good and evil, shall no longer sway the bosoms and businesses of men. All things move, not in progress, but in a ceaseless round; our strength lies in our weakness; our virtues are built on our vices; our faculties are as limited as our being; nor can we lift man above his nature more than above the earth he treads. But, though we cannot weave over again the airy, unsubstantial dream, which reason and experience have dispelled,

"What though the radiance, which was once so bright,
Be now for ever taken from our sight,
Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of glory in the grass, of splendour in the flower:"—

With unprovoked, unfounded, shocking, and abominable calumnies on any man's private character, we have nothing to do. The discussion of them forms an instant and imperious duty of the courts of law.

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yet we will never cease nor be prevented from returning on the wings of imagination to that bright dream of our youth; that glad dawn of the day-star of liberty; that spring-time of the world, in which the hopes and expectations of the human race seemed opening in the same gay career with our own; when France called her children to partake her equal blessings beneath her laughing skies; when the stranger was met in all her villages with dance and festive songs, in celebration of a new and golden era; and when to the retired and contemplative student the prospects of human happiness and glory were seen ascending, like the steps of Jacob's ladder, in bright and never-ending succession. The dawn of that day was suddenly overcast; that season of hope is past; it is fled with the other dreams of our youth, which we cannot recall, but has left behind it traces which are not to be effaced by birth-day and thanksgiving odes, or the chaunting of *Te Deums* in all the churches of Christendom. To those hopes eternal regrets are due; to those who maliciously and wilfully blasted them, in the fear that they might be accomplished, we feel no less what we owe—hatred and scorn as lasting!"

As a *primary event*, influencing by its peculiar features and connections strongly and immediately the tone and progress of society in the European Continent, and, more remotely, some of the less indifferent feelings and speculations of the whole range of civilized man, *the French Revolution*, that word of still mighty import has been used, we imagine, with reference to varying phenomena in the moral, and very different classes of events in the political, world, both by its friends and enemies, with marvellously little strictness of application or clearness of idea. By one set of thinkers it has been execrated as the direful parent of all, and even more than all, the evils attributed by others to the selfishness and unteachableness of kings and courts. By a recluse, and scanty, and scattered race of speculative men, it has been more simply regarded as a grand revenge on the crimes of successful tyranny, and the insults of deceiving priestcraft, wherever committed. We do not wish to enter into this painful topic, or to express, even by inference, any opinion of our own upon it; but, in these days of political mystification and shameless tergiversation, there is something kindly in the air of that man who can trust himself with the buoyancy and warmth of his youthful impressions;—more so, if he can speak of that event without any perverse inclination to cut into the angry feelings about it which yet remain on either side.

As to Mr Hazlitt's Characters of Shakespeare, they appear to us the most animated, intelligent, and prepossessed criticism on the "great heir of fame." Their admiration is only too systematic. There is a constant effort to point out beauties, along with a profound reason for them, and to discern fitnesses at which Shakespeare himself would be astonished, were any of the happy spirits in Elysium to mention the progressive speculations about him with which earth teems. The following passage from these criticisms, which is full of truth and error, is a proper specimen of how deeply Mr Hazlitt goes into the most ticklish speculations, even when he is discussing the scenery of a play, or the merits of a scenic hero.

"The insolence of power is stronger than the plea of necessity. The tame submission to usurped authority, or even the natural resistance to it, has nothing to excite or flatter the imagination: it is the assumption of a right to insult or oppress others that carries an air of superiority with it. Wrong, dressed out in pride, pomp, and circumstance, has more attraction than abstract right. Coriolanus complains of the fickleness of the people; yet, the instant he cannot gratify his pride and obstinacy at their expence, he turns his arms against his country. If his country was not worth defending, why build his pride on its defence? He is a conqueror and a hero; he conquers other countries, and makes this a plea for enslaving his own; and, when he is prevented from doing so, he leagues with its enemies to destroy his country. He rates the people 'as if he were a god to punish, and not a man of their infirmity.' He scoffs at one of their tribunes for maintaining their rights and franchises. 'Mark you his absolute shall;' not marking his own absolute *will* to take every thing from them,—his impatience of the slightest opposition to his own pretensions being in proportion to their arrogance and absurdity. If the great and powerful had the beneficence and wisdom of gods, then all this would have been well: if, with a greater knowledge of what is good for the people, they had as great a care for their interest as they have themselves, if they were seated above the world, sympathizing with the welfare, but not feeling the passions of men, receiving neither good nor hurt from them, but bestowing their benefits as free gifts on them, they might then rule over them like an-

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other Providence. But this is not the case. Coriolanus is unwilling that the senate should shew their 'cares' for the people, lest their 'cares' should be construed into 'fears,' to the subversion of all due authority; and he is no sooner disappointed in his schemes to deprive the people, not only of the cares of the state, but of all power to redress themselves, than Volumnia is made madly to exclaim,

> 'Now the red pestilence strike all trades in Rome,
> And occupations perish.'

This is but natural: it is but natural for a mother to have more regard for her son than for a whole city; but then the city should be left to take some care of itself. The care of the state cannot, we here see, be safely entrusted to maternal affection, or to the domestic charities of high life. The great have private feelings of their own, to which the interests of humanity and justice must courtesy. Their interests are so far from being the same as those of the community, that they are in direct, if necessary, opposition to them; their power is at the expence of *our* weakness; their riches of *our* poverty; their pride of *our* degradation; their splendour of *our* wretchedness; their tyranny of *our* servitude. If they had the superior knowledge ascribed to them, (which they have not,) it would only render them so much more formidable; and from gods would convert them into devils. The whole dramatic moral of CORIOLANUS is, that those who have little shall have less, and that those who have much shall take all that others have left. The people are poor, therefore they ought to be starved. They are slaves, therefore they ought to be beaten. They work hard, therefore they ought to be treated like beasts of burthen. They are ignorant, therefore they ought not to be allowed to feel that they want food, or clothing, or rest, that they are enslaved, oppressed, and miserable. This is the logic of the imagination and the passions; which seeks to aggrandize what excites admiration, and to heap contempt on misery; to raise power into tyranny, and to make tyranny absolute; to thrust down that which is low still lower, and to make wretches desperate: to exalt magistrates into kings, kings into gods; to degrade subjects to the rank of slaves, and slaves to the condition of brutes. The history of mankind is a romance, a mask, a tragedy, constructed upon the principles of *poetical justice;* it is a noble or royal hunt, in which what is sport to the few is death to the many, and in which the spectators halloo and encourage the strong to set upon the weak, and cry havock in the chace, though they do not share in the spoil. We may depend upon it, that what men delight to read in books, they will put in practice in reality."

This is extremely animated and erroneous, and, in point of ingenuity, is far above the pitch of dramatic criticism. What follows is less painful in its subject, as well as more just and lively.

"Shakespeare's comedy is, in essence, the same with that of Cervantes, and also very frequently of Moliere, though he was more systematic in his extravagance than Shakespeare. Shakespeare's comedy is of a pastoral and poetical cast. Folly is indigenous to the soil, and shoots out with a native, happy, unchecked luxuriance. Absurdity has every encouragement afforded it, and nonsense has room to flourish in. Nothing is stunted by the churlish icy hand of indifference or severity. The poet runs riot in a conceit, and idolizes a quibble. His whole object is to turn the meanest or rudest objects to a pleasurable account. The relish which he has of a pun, or of the quaint humour of a low character, does not interfere with the delight with which he describes a beautiful image, or the most refined love. The clown's forced jests do not spoil the sweetness of the character of Viola; the same house is big enough to hold Malvolio, the Countess, Maria, Sir Toby, and Sir Andrew Ague-Cheek. For instance, nothing can fall much lower than this last character in intellect or morals: yet how are his weaknesses nursed and dandled by Sir Toby into something 'high fantastical,' when, on Sir Andrew's commendation of himself for dancing and fencing, Sir Toby answers, 'Wherefore are these things hid? Wherefore have these gifts a curtain before them?' &c. How Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, and the Clown, afterwards *chirp over their cups!* How they 'rouse the night out in a catch, able to draw three souls out of one weaver!' What can be better than Sir Toby's unanswerable answer to Malvolio, 'Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?' In a word, the best turn is given to every thing, instead of the worst. There is a constant infusion of the romantic and enthusiastic, in proportion as the characters are natural and sincere; whereas, in the more artificial style of comedy, every thing gives way to ridicule and indifference, there being nothing left but affectation on one side, and incredulity on the other. Much as we like Shakespeare's comedies, we cannot agree with Dr Johnson, that they are better than his tragedies; nor do we like them half so well. If his inclination to comedy sometimes led him to trifle with the seriousness of tragedy, the poetical and impassioned passages are the best parts of his comedies."

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Mr Hazlitt, in descanting on Shakespeare's beauties, and on the variety of his genius, which grasps, as it were by *anticipation*, so many excrescent lights of thought, and gratuitous corruscations of fancy, has omitted to note, with its proper tone, one striking passage. In the first scene, second act, of "*As You Like It*," we think Shakespeare has completely anticipated *the Lake Poets*. He "translates the stubbornness of fortune into so quiet and so sweet a style," as to "Find tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in every thing." All that precedes, about the seclusion and simplicity of their style of life in the Forest of Arden;—all that follows of the "poor sequestered stag that from the hunter's aim had ta'en a hurt;"—where Jacques is left "weeping and commenting upon the sobbing deer," and the Duke is made to say, "I love to cope him in those sullen fits, for then he is full of matter." All these parts are in a style which Mr Wordsworth has not surpassed, either for natural plainness, or force of effect. Nothing can, indeed, be more effective, except in such cases as where, by an instantaneous hit, Shakespeare reaches the very climax of good fellowship. It is Sir John Falstaff who says, "Aye, Master Shallow, we have heard the chimes at midnight!!"

Six Weeks in Paris, or a Cure for the Gallomania; said to be extracted from the Portfolio of a Nobleman. 3 volumes 8vo. London, J. Johnston.

From the title of this book, we suspected that it would be a libel against the French; and, as we have an abhorrence of all libels, whether directed against nations or individuals, we were predisposed to severity against the author. On reading it, however, all our wrath subsided, and our feelings sunk into those of the most sovereign contempt. The desire to calumniate is, no doubt, strongly shown in every page; but, fortunately, the malignity of the author is diluted with such a profuse mixture of vulgarity and stupidity, that he, and, perhaps, his unfortunate publisher, are the only persons in danger of suffering from the effusion. The resemblance of Paris, or of Parisian manners, is so little to be discovered, in the coarse, vulgar, and disgusting daubings of the author, that we have no hesitation in saying, that he has never been in Paris himself. We are persuaded that he has only heard some gossiping fool give a distorted description of some few objects in that city which attract the attention of strangers,—has thereupon procured a *Guide de Paris*, for farther information,—and from these materials has produced the three volumes now given to the public. In short, there is neither reality nor caricature;—neither humour, wit, nor fancy, to be found in the book;—and, as for taste or fine writing, an Irish labourer, dictating an epistle which he cannot write, would exhibit specimens of both superior to those displayed by the author in this wretched performance.

We have to apologize, therefore, for noticing the work at all; but we do so to have an opportunity of expressing our decided disapprobation of all attempts to libel the character and manners of foreign nations, to gratify the senseless conceit of the ignorant and malignant part of our own. We were much distressed, when in France, to meet with amiable and intelligent individuals of that nation filled with all sorts of prejudices against this country, many of them so foolish as to excite our astonishment at their being for a moment entertained. But these prejudices owed their origin to misrepresentations, lies, and slanders, industriously circulated in France by wits of the same paltry description as are found too easily here. We really did not know whether to smile or to frown at being gravely told, that, in Britain, the gentlemen regularly get drunk after the ladies have retired to the drawing-room;—that genteel people in England box each other on the slightest quarrel;—that we eat beaf-steaks, half raw and half broiled, to breakfast, dinner, and supper;—that our whole soul is wrapt up, night and day, in the desire of gain;—that we are strangers to refined amusement and social pleasure;—that we shoot, drown, and hang ourselves on the occasion of every disappointment; with an endless list of similar absurdities. Such ridiculous prejudices may appear deserving of contempt alone; and, if no evil consequences arose

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from them, farther than a laugh at our expence, that would be the proper treatment to give them. But the propagation of such notions keeps alive those feelings of mutual contempt, hatred, and animosity, which prepare the population of both countries to rush again with eagerness into hostilities, and to embrue their hands in each other's blood. Were it possible to make us believe that virtue, genius, and amiable feeling, may be found among the French, and to make the French believe that civilized, polite, intelligent, and upright men may be found in Britain; in short, were it possible to give the two nations a mutual esteem for each other, more would thereby be done towards preserving the peace of Europe than is likely to be accomplished by the Holy Alliance itself. The feelings of the people, in this country at least, have still some influence on the government; and, could we happily be brought to perceive, that there is nothing in the French character so very offensive to God or man, as to make it either very meritorious or very glorious for us to take the ships, bombard the towns, and cut the throats of that nation, perhaps one day we might save ourselves many hard blows on our own heads, and avoid many bitter groanings under a load of taxation, the sure accompaniment of the pastime of war. He, therefore, who wantonly exasperates the feelings of national hostility between us and France, has to answer to a heavy charge at the bar of reason and morality; and he who endeavours, without flattering either, to allay these animosities, has at least the merit of attempting to do a service to both.

A Narrative of the Case of Miss Margaret M'Avoy, with an Account of some Optical Experiments connected with it. By THOMAS RENWICK, M. D. Physician to the Liverpool Infirmary. 4to. London, 1817.

WHEN we first heard of this wonderful lady, in the tea-table gossip of this city, and her extraordinary powers, we must confess that we could not help suspecting her to be another edition of the *fasting-woman*, or of *Caraboo*, the late celebrated Princess of Japan. Our suspicions were not entirely removed by the letter of the Rev. Thomas Glover, nor do we feel perfectly convinced by the quarto volume of the Physician to the Liverpool Infirmary. We have read the whole of the Doctor's preface, narrative, and appendix; and the conclusion at which we have arrived is, that the powers ascribed to Miss M'Avoy are altogether miraculous, not to be accounted for by reference either to experience or analogy, and unparalleled by any of those singular deviations from the established laws of nature which sometimes baffle the wisdom of the wise, while they afford abundant matter for the wonder, credulity, and exaggeration of the vulgar.

Before, however, proceeding to shew, from Dr Renwick's own statements, the grounds which we have for coming to such a conclusion, it may be necessary to inform such of our readers as are not acquainted with the circumstances, that this is a narrative given in the form of a journal of a medical case;—that Miss Margaret M'Avoy is a young lady of Liverpool, who entered the eighteenth year of her age on the 28th of last June; and that, from nine months upwards, she has always been in bad health. Her first ailment appears to have been some affection of the brain or its membranes, as her recovery was owing to a discharge of thick matter from her ears and nostrils. She next had the scarlet-fever and hooping-cough, which last was succeeded by a violent inflammation of her eyes. "When the eyelids were raised up," says Dr Renwick, "the eye-balls appeared as one mass of blood." They were cured by *Johnston's golden ointment*. In October 1814 she caught a violent cold, attended with cough, loss of appetite, and great debility. In February 1815 her thighs became œdematous, and the body was much swollen. On the 4th of June 1816, Dr Renwick received a message to visit her early next morning; and he describes the condition in which he found her, in a report on the 5th, from which we extract the following particulars. She had taken little or no food for the last three weeks. The bowels were habitually costive; pulse varied from 84 to 140. There had been no appearance of the menses for three months. She complained of cough, pain in the right side, tightness of

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the chest, dyspnœa, and palpitation of the heart; also of violent pain in the fore and back part of the head, with a throbbing and beating sensation. The vessels of the coats of the eye were filled with red blood, but she suffered very little uneasiness from the action of light. She was much affected with giddiness; was nearly blind of the left eye; and, for some days, every object she had seen with the right appeared white if at a distance; if near, it appeared double. On the 7th she appeared totally blind. On the 9th she was seized with convulsions. About three o'clock on the afternoon of the 12th she was observed to gasp for breath, and complained of a sense of suffocation from something passing down her throat that was very offensive in taste and smell. The convulsions ceased from the time of the discharge taking place; but the beating complained of in the back part of the head did not subside until the 17th. She then felt a soreness over the whole body. The top of the head became peculiarly sensible. Her hearing, which had been dull from childhood, was now very acute. On the 2d of August she had become very expert in sewing, although she was said to have been blind from the 6th or 7th of June.

It was now that her wonderful powers began to be developed. She was able to thread her needle frequently at the first effort. Early in September she pointed out to her father-in-law a particular passage in a book that was put into her hands, and read part of it. This induced them to try her with another book, and on presenting her with a large folio bible she read several verses. She felt the letters with her fingers before she pronounced the word, and had she stopped here we might have been inclined to give some credit to her powers; for we know that the sense of touch is often most astonishingly acute, and she might be able to discover the form of a letter by the finger passing over it. Nay, we will even allow, that it was possible for her to acquire the faculty of distinguishing colours in the same way, by touching the object; but when we are told, that she can tell the hour of the day, by placing her finger upon the watch-glass; that she can tell the number of persons in the street, their dress and occupation, by placing her fingers on a pane of the window-glass in the inside of the room, we cannot avoid taking refuge from the painful influence of those overwhelming mysteries in the retreats of stubborn scepticism.

January 17, 1817.—"This day she not only declared the colour of different cloths, cotton and silk, but several pieces of silk that were inclosed in a small phial bottle!"—"A watch was given into her hands, she felt the surface of the glass, and soon named the hour!"

June 28.—"Traced and told several colours of silk inclosed in a glass-bottle!"

Experiment 19.—"With her hands upon the window perceived two newly cut stones of a yellow colour, lying one on another against the wall on the other side of the street, distance about 12 yards!" August 4th.—"With her hand placed behind her upon the window, opposite to the communion end of the church, she told the figures of different people passing, and sometimes named the colour of their clothes. She told also the position of four different workmen in the church-yard, one by one as they sat down, and then of the four she stated one to be reading a paper or book, the second to have his hands folded across his breast; the third with his hands in his breeches pocket, and so on."

We have not space for more of these wonders; but enough we hope has been said to excuse our incredulity. On a future occasion we may try even to justify it; and to shew, from the Narrative itself, that it is at least as probable that Miss M'Avoy is not altogether blind, as that she is endowed with the capacity of perceiving the forms, and colours, and locality of distant objects, by passing her fingers along the panes of a window. There is here, indeed, as Hume might have said upon reading the evidence of such learned, and, we make no doubt, honourable men, a terrible conflict between probabilities. We already anticipate on which side victory will rest.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

MOHALED—*a Tale.*

THE Moon leans o'er the groves of pine
That crown the cloudless Appenine,
And from the bosom of the night
The vales burst with their rills of light,
That slide down grassy slopes, or spring
From rocks, with ceaseless murmuring.
The Var beneath her paly glow
Reposes, white as desart snow
Between his level banks, that gleam
In dew resplendent as his stream.
There the soft moonlight sleeps, and fair
Each diamond star is twinkling there.
So bright the glittering pictures lie,
Earth smiles like an inferior sky;
Prepared for pure and sainted things
To worship in, while living strings,
Instinct with music's spirit, move,
And feed their burning hearts with love.
Are these of heaven that slowly glide
Beside the Var's unconscious tide,
Twin forms in loveliness, bedight
In shining robes of virgin white?
Their flaxen locks in masses rolled,
Fall clustering o'er their zones of gold;
Half-veiling polished arms of snow,
That join in loving folds below.
A swelling brow, an eye of blue,
Beam those ungathered tresses through;
And bosoms 'neath that lucid skreen
In bud-like purity are seen:
So stands an angel, when he springs
To earth, and folds his spangled wings.
Onward the cloud-like creatures float;
The flowers spring as they felt them not;
And from the grass no rustling sound
Tells that their small feet press the ground;
Till, where a lonely oak hath laid
Across the flood his tower-like shade,—
Whose head, in the blue depth afar,
Is diademed with many a star,—
Their motions cease. A tear, a sigh,
The bosom lifts, and gems the eye,
As on their heaven-ward faces streaming
The downy light is softly beaming.
Alas! sad stream, a human tear
Is trembling in thy mirror clear;
And in a bosom crushed and torn
That long despairing sigh was born!
Behold, beside thy starry water,
Alveni's bleeding-hearted daughter!
And one whose sympathetic ear,
Alone her tragic tale must hear,
While with the eloquence of woe,
Broken with sobs, her sorrows flow;
Now scarcely audible, and drowned
In tears, half sinking to the ground—
And now rekindles in her face
The high-ton'd spirit of her race,
Indignant as her tale proceeds
Through ruthless and oppressive deeds;
She waves her hand with threatening air,
As if her father's might were there;
And such a curse was in his eye,
When fierce he thrust, and thundered,
"Die!"
But quickly past the tempest sweeps;
Again the woman melts and weeps—
Thus the pent torrent jets and roars
Between its strait and ragged shores,
Or shoots the headlong gulf amain
Impatient of its mountain chain;
Then soothed the meads and groves among
In flowers and music glides along.
Sweet childhood's vermeil scenes arise
In sun-tints laughing to the skies;
And long enamoured memory plays
Infantine, in the thornless maze;
When safe the modest floweret lay
A bud of promise on the spray.
This vision fades, and upward springs
Glad youth with glory on his wings.
Joys more intense, but less sincere,
Urge their magnificent career;
And pleasure in the bounding vein
Defiance pours to grief and pain.
"Now from this summer hill of bliss,
Look forward. From the drear abyss
The soul turns gloomily, for there
The shadows frown of my despair.
O! Anna, can I breathe that name
Which comes across my soul like flame,
Straining to madness every cord—
That name beloved—accurst—adored!
His image rises in my brain;
He looks, he speaks, he loves again;
And, spite of nature's partial will,
He reigns within my bosom still.
His honours fresh, and sweetly worn,
Lovely he came—as summer's morn
Leaps o'er the dew-bright hill, and gives
Delight to every thing that lives!
Though young in arms, his deeds were told
In bower and hall by warriors bold;
Who dropt the old heroic story
To kindle at my hero's glory.
His birth unknown,—but you might spy
In his clear front, and lofty eye,
Native nobility,—a claim
Felt and confessed where'er he came.—
Oft by Alveni's side he stood
In rugged hours of strife and blood,
The pillar of our house, and far
Roll'd danger from the banks of Var.
In gratitude my friendship sprung—
On friendship love his blossoms hung,
And sweet the fruit. Why should I tell
How first the blushing secret fell

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In music from his lips? 'Mid fears
And doubts our passion grew for years;
Till on a field his valour won
My sire triumphant hail'd him son!
And said the noblest of the land
Should yield to him his daughter's hand,
If he would deign—He clasp'd his knee,
And owned he fought and bled for me!
"For her, and not for fame, or spoil,
In war's determined ranks I toil.
For who Alveni's child would won,
Must prove himself a soldier's son!"
The bridal feast is drawn. The voice
Of music bids the heart rejoice.
Springs the light dance, the spirits rise
In throbbing veins and glancing eyes;
And in the many-tapered hall
One face of gladness smiles o'er all!
But what is mortal mirth? A gleam
Of star-light on a turbid stream,
Vivid—but in a moment gone—
And dark the sounding flood rolls on.—
Sudden, amid the glittering crowd,
An unrejoicing stranger stood:
His sun-scathed brow a turban crowned,
A daggered sash his tunic bound;
But, soiled and dim, his arms and dress
Bespoke a recreant's wretchedness.
As one, he seemed, in battle crossed,
His honour, cause, and courage lost;
But breathing still, in low estate,
An inextinguishable hate,
Feeding on desperate thoughts that burn,
Like watch-fires, till the day return.
Alone he stood, with gloomy air,
A statue 'neath the torches' glare;
For all with secret awe inspired
From the mysterious guest retired.
But as I gazed a flickering train
Of phantoms moved athwart my brain,
Confused with dreamlike reveries—
As when a breath disturbs the trees,
Sun-glimpses down the fluttering glade
In busy fragments sport with shade.
And when he raised his turban's fold,
And down his auburn tresses rolled,
Curling around his cheeks and brow,—
The tongue needs not interpret now!
Nor words express a brother's claim,
Or tell Correglia Lodi's name.
"My brother!"—"Oh my son!"—We flew
To clasp him—but he backward drew
Disdainful, while a hasty streak
Of anger flushed his marble cheek,
Leaving it paler, and his eyes
Shot lightning—"Touch me not," he cries,
"*I* cannot feign. This heart can feel
No more—its cords are cold as steel.
Forget me, as you had forgot,
Or seemed to do. It matters not.
"Have chains, and insults, and disgrace,
Worn child and brother from my face!
And disinheriting despair
Cast Lodi from Alveni's care,
That in his arms my deadliest foe,
The veriest fiend that breathes below,
Mohaled—hath a welcome found!"
(And threw a savage glance around.)—
"Him I demand," Alveni cried;
"Who told thee so, by heaven! hath lied!
And thou dost wrong me to give place
Within thy soul to thought so base."
Dubious he hears, and wavering seems
Shrunk in himself like one who dreams.
Then yielding with a generous tear,
"Forgive me Sire! Correglia dear!
Pardon a wretch who never knew
One love sincere—one friendship true;
Whose very blood severe distress
Hath turned to gall and bitterness.
This kind embrace renews the chain
Of filial sympathies. The pain
Of utter loneliness departs,
To feel I live in human hearts!
Even now thy renovating power
Hath half restored the gracious hour
Of youth, when, winged with buoyant minds,
We played 'mong flowers like summer winds.
Since then, alas! what woe, what pain
Hath wrung my heart, and parched my brain!
An exile, a dishonoured slave!
I've courted like a bride, the grave;
But heaven denied, and urged me still
Through each vicissitude of ill.
Or must I say in that dark strife
Hate was the principle of life,
Which linked my soul and stubborn frame,
Till I had washed in blood my fame!
Lest proud Mohaled—Wretch accurst!"
He cried, and sternly from us burst.—
And where his fiery glances fell
Stepped forward my betrothed Gobell.
He raised his stately head: "Beware!
I spared, but may not always spare!
Know have bled—let those who live
Think of the present, and forgive."
"Traitor!" said Lodi, "thou dost well
Reminding me of those who fell!
Now let their spirits joy to see
Due vengeance done their wrongs by me!
And this arm like a withered bough
Shrink if it play the stripling now!"—
And struck with all his force, but erred;
Gobell unwounded grasped him hard
With circling arms,—through back and breast
His cruel steel the murderer prest!
Then to the floor, with haughty swing,
He threw him like a loathsome thing.
My eyes grew dark—a shrilly cry
Of grief and horror rung on high;
But motionless each coward hand,
And sheathed each slow and worthless brand,
Till through the ring, with dauntless stride,
Passed the tremendous homicide,
And far behind him threw the tower
And pursuit of Alveni's power."

(To be continued.)

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LINES.

On visiting the Sepulchral Monument of Robert Burns, at Dumfries. (By Eaglesfield Smith, Esq.)

SCOTLAND's sweet bard, "the muse's pride,"
Here starv'd amidst renown;
Here poor he lived, and poor he died,
The chief boast of your town.

Who from his sufferings turn'd aside,
Hard as these chisel'd stones;
Say, was't through penitence or pride
You thus entomb'd his bones?

For well I wot the bard we've lost,
Had sung in times to come,
Had he been spar'd but half the cost
You've lavished on his tomb. *

SONNET.

On receiving the Scenes of Infancy from a Lady.

DEPARTED patriot of the Border land,
Leyden, I love thy animated lay,
That swell'd, tho' mouldering fast into decay,
The magic harp of ancient Teviot's strand;
Which, tun'd to harmony at thy command,
Flings its wild notes by glen and flow'ry brae,
Then sweeps along the wold, and dies away
In solemn cadence by the breezes fann'd.
But O! if e'er I loved these strains of thine,
I love them more that thou'rt forever gone
To worship at a pure and heavenly shrine;
Yet more I love them, being the gift of one
To me a friend, of all friends most sincere,
And dearer even than thy Aurelia dear!

H.

OLD AGE, AND DEATH OF THE POOR.

A Fragment, in Imitation of Crabbe.

THE frugal widow, who, for many a mile,
To market long has trudged, by path and stile,
With hat of black, and cloak that once was red,
And basket cramm'd with eggs upon her head,
Or ducks or chickens her own hands had fed;
As time rolls on, with step less firm is seen
To mount the stile, or tread the village green;
Then bent and tottering joins the market throng,
But finds the road too rough, the way too long.
At last condemned, before her cottage door,
To view the travellers she must join no more.
Her utmost effort now to reach the wood,
And pick the faggot, for her evening's food;—
Which (pausing oft) she homewards still can bring,
Or draw, with feeble hand, her beverage from the spring.
Her children, once the objects of her care,
Must now, in turn, the hoarded shilling spare,
From distance sent, and grudging, one by one,
To help her needs,—for comforts she had none!
Alas! what comfort waits life's latest stage,
When poverty contends with trembling age?
The good old dame this bitter potion tried,
In patience tasted,—and in patience died!
Helpless,—alone,—without one stander by
To wet the lip, or close the glazing eye;
Unknown,—until, the day's long labour sped,
Some dropping neighbour called, and found that she was dead.
Summoned in haste, her nearest kindred come,
Unpaid, to bear her to her latest home.
Hopeless of scarf or gloves to smooth his toil,
His thoughts on hunting all intent the while,
(For it might chance, when to the grave was borne
The dame, it might be a clear scenting morn,
And tempting in his ear might sound the echoing horn.)
The mutter'd prayers in haste the parson read;
In haste, the surly sexton raised his spade,
And on the human earth the covering earth was laid.
The mute attendants, eager all to go,
Hear the last blessing, pay the parting bow;
Full of life's various cares, they quit the scene,
And scarce remember here that death has been;
All, save the son, who, as he home returns,
Thinks of the coffin yet unpaid,——and mourns.

* For every sore 'tis said there is a salve;
"They help'd to honour whom they help'd to starve."

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

SOME time ago an application was made to Government, by the University of Edinburgh, for the improvement of its museum of Natural History. For this purpose, it was requested, that instructions might be issued to the different ministers and public servants abroad, recommending that they should avail themselves of every opportunity of collecting specimens, and should transmit them to the University to be added to its museum. A favourable answer to this application having been received from Lord Castlereagh, Professor Jameson drew up the following directions as to the best mode of preserving the various objects of Natural History. We gladly avail ourselves of his obliging permission to insert them, as we are persuaded that, besides answering the object immediately in view, they will be found eminently useful to all who pursue the different branches of this extensive and important science.

Quadrupeds and Birds.—Quadrupeds and birds to be preserved by taking off their skins, which may be easily done, by making an incision in a straight line, from the vent to the throat, and removing the skin by means of a blunt knife. The skull and bones of the legs and feet are to be left. The brain, eyes, and tongue, ought also to be extracted. The skin, in order that it may be preserved from decay, should be also rubbed on the outside with some one of the following compositions: 1*st*, tanners' bark well dried and pounded, one part; burnt alum, one part; and in a hot climate one part of sulphur; to be well mixed together.—2*d*, tanners' bark well dried and pounded, one part; tobacco, perfectly dried, one part; burnt alum, one part: add to every ounce of these ingredients one ounce of camphor, and half an ounce of sulphur. (*N. B.* No sublimate or arsenic ought to be put on the skins, as both substances destroy their texture.) These compositions to be kept for use in well corked bottles or jars.

Skins, when thus prepared, and perfectly dry, must be packed carefully in boxes, the lids of which ought to be pasted up, and in the paste used in fixing the paper, a little corrosive sublimate must be put, which prevents insects from eating through the paper.

Reptiles and Fishes.—Reptiles and fishes are best preserved in spirit of wine, rum, or whisky, some of which must be injected into the stomach, through the mouth, and into the other intestines through the anus. Before putting them into bottles, jars, or barrels, they ought to be washed clean of slimy matter. If long kept in spirits before they are sent, the spirits should be changed two or three times. The jars or bottles ought to be closed by means of sheet-lead and bladders. The larger reptiles, as crocodiles, and the larger fishes, may be preserved in the same manner as quadrupeds and birds.

Animal Concretions.—Concretions of various kinds are occasionally found in the brain, lungs, heart, liver, kidneys, gall-bladder, intestines, and urinary bladder. The stomachs of many animals afford concretions of different kinds, particularly those known under the name of *Bezoar Stones;* and travellers inform us, that stones are met with in the eggs of the ostrich. All of these bodies are interesting and valuable to the natural historian.

Skeletons.—Collectors ought not to neglect to preserve the skeletons of the different species of animals. Of man, the skull is the most interesting part, as it varies in the different races of the human species, and is also frequently singularly altered by the practices of savage tribes. The best way of cleaning bones, is to expose them to the air, and allow the insects to eat off the flesh. This being done, they ought to be washed with sea water, and afterwards freely exposed to the sun. The best skulls are obtained by putting the whole head in rum or whisky, or a strong solution of alum; and both male and female heads ought if possible to be preserved.

Molluscous Animals,—Vermes and Zoophytes.—Molluscous animals, such as cuttle-fish, the inhabitants of shells, &c. Vermes or worms, and Zoophytes, or animals of the coral and other allied kinds, ought all to be preserved in spirits; and in the two former classes, viz. the Mollusca and Vermes, the spirit of wine should be injected into the intestines, by means of a syringe, to prevent the putrefaction of the internal parts, and the consequent destruction of the organs of digestion, respiration, and of the nervous system. Many Zoophytes or Corals, or rather their houses, may be preserved dry; but fragments of every species ought to be put into spirits, that the real structure of the animal may be discovered.

Shells.—Shells, or the coverings of Molluscous animals, are anxiously sought after by the naturalist, not only on account of their great beauty, but also from their intimate connection with the various fossil species met with in rocks of different kinds. The best live shells are collected by means of a trawling-net, such as is used by fishermen, if the depths are not too great; they are also brought up by the cable in weigh-

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ing anchor, the log-line, and in sounding.

After a storm, good shells may be picked up on sea beaches or shores, as the violent agitation of the ocean in a tempest separates them from their native beds, and often casts them on the shore. Shells that have been much tossed about by the waves, are of less value than fresh ones; but these, when other specimens are not to be got, ought to be carefully collected. Many interesting shells are found in rivers and lakes; and numerous species occur on the surface of the land.

Fresh shells, or those in which the animal is still alive, ought to be thrown into hot water, the temperature of which may be gradually brought to the boiling point, by the repeated additions of hotter portions, by which means the animal will be killed. The shells are allowed to cool for two or three minutes, and then the animal is picked out.

Insects.—Beetles of every kind are speedily deprived of life by putting into boiling water, which does not injure those having black, brown, or any dark colour; but those which are covered with fine down, or have brilliant colours and lustre, should not be exposed to moisture, but are easily killed, if put into a phial, and placed in a vessel of boiling water for some time. When the insects are quite motionless, such as have been in the water should be exposed to the air and sun for a day or two, until perfectly dry. In this state, they are to be placed in boxes with cotton-wool, along with camphor. Beetles may also be preserved in spirit of wine.

Butterflies, moths, and many other tribes of insects, with delicate and tender wings, may be easily killed, by pressing the thorax or breast betwixt the finger and thumb; and it is preferable to have the wings closed, because they thus occupy less space, their colour and lustre are better preserved, and they can be expanded afterwards by the steam of hot water. Care should be taken that the antennæ or feelers and legs are not injured. A pin should be stuck through them, by means of which they are fastened to the bottom of a box lined with cork, or to one of deal, or other soft wood. Camphor ought to be put into the box.

The Arachnides or Spiders are best preserved in spirits.

In collecting insects, we use either the forceps or a net. The forceps are about ten or twelve inches in length, provided with fans of a circular or other form, and are covered with fine gauze. They are held and moved as a pair of scissars. The net is very easily made. It is of gauze, or any very fine open muslin, made upon a piece of cane of four feet long, split down the middle about the half of the length: the split part is tied together, so as to form a hoop, upon which the gauze is sewed in the form of a bag; the lower part serves as a handle, and with this, all flying insects may be very easily caught. When the insect is once within the rim of the net, by turning it on either side, its escape is completely prevented by the pressure of the gauze or muslin against the edge of the hoop.

Crabs.—Crabs, Lobsters, &c. may be suffocated in spirits of wine or turpentine, and then dried in an oven.

Crustaceous Animals.—Sea Stars, after washing in fresh water, may be extended on boards by means of pins, and when dry, laid between folds of paper, and packed in a box with a little camphor.

In Echini or Sea Eggs, the soft internal parts are to be extracted by the anus: they are then to be stuffed with cotton, and carefully packed with tow or cotton. Particular attention should be paid to the preserving of the spines.

Seeds.—In collecting seeds, it is desirable that they should be well ripened, and dried in the sun. Large quantities should never be put together, but only a few, and these well selected. They retain their vegetative powers much better if tied up in linen or cotton cloth, than in any other substances; and if then packed up in small boxes, and placed in an airy part of the ship, there is every probability of their arriving in a sound state. The same remark applies to bulbous roots. Bulbs should never be put in the same box with seeds. The boxes with seeds, and with bulbs, ought never to be put into the ship's hold.

Dried Plants.—The greater part of plants dry easily between leaves of books, or other paper. If there be plenty of paper, they often dry best without shifting; but if the specimens are crowded, they must be taken out frequently, and the paper dried before they are replaced. Those plants which are very tenacious of life, ought to be killed by the application of a hot iron, such as is used for linen, after which they are easily dried. The collections to be carefully packed in boxes with camphor, and closed in the same manner as directed for quadrupeds and birds.

Minerals.—1. Every mineral, from the most common clay or sand, to the gem, ought to be collected.

2. Specimens of rocks, such as granite, porphyry, limestone, &c. should, if possible, be broken from fixed rocks, and not from loose masses, which are generally decayed. In selecting the specimens, one set ought to represent the different varieties of appearance presented by the rock in the fresh state, another, the rock in its different states of decomposition.

3. When the specimens of simple minerals, or rocks, contain crystals, they ought to be wrapped in gauze-paper, then in cot-

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ton, and afterwards in several folds of strong wrapping-paper.

4. The specimens of rocks ought, if possible, never to be less than four inches square, and one inch in thickness, and of a square form. As soon as they have been prepared, they should be labelled, and wrapped in several folds of strong wrapping-paper. When paper cannot be procured, moss, or other soft vegetable substance, may be substituted for it.

5. The sands of deserts, steppes, and rivers, ought to be carefully collected. The sands of rivers often contain precious stones and metals, and hence become very interesting objects to the naturalist. The sands of deserts and steppes throw much light on the nature of the surrounding country, and are much prized by the geologist.

6. Numerous mineralized animal and vegetable remains occur imbedded in strata of different kinds; all these ought to be very carefully collected, and preserved. Abundance of shells in a fossil or petrified state, are met with in limestone; of vegetables in slate-clay, sandstone, &c.; and numerous bones, and even whole skeletons of quadrupeds, birds, amphibious animals, fishes, and even of insects, occur in rocks of various descriptions.

7. The mineralogist ought to provide himself with hammers of various sizes. One for common use of two pounds weight; others, three, four, and six pounds weight. He ought also to provide himself with chisels of various sizes and forms, and with a set of small boring-irons. A miner's compass, small magnifying glass, goniometer, and blow-pipe, ought also to form part of his equipment. The two first are indispensably necessary for the travelling mineralogist. Nor should he neglect to provide himself with a strong bag; the form that of a fowling-bag, lined with strong leather, covered with wax-cloth, and the outside of some durable cloth.

Antiquities, Articles of Dress, Agricultural, Hunting, and Warlike Instruments, &c. of different Nations and Tribes.—The collecting of the various articles just enumerated, is particularly recommended, as these objects illustrate, in a very interesting manner, the past and present condition of the human species.

Drawings.—Drawings of zoological and geological subjects,—also of the scenery of countries,—the costume of different nations and tribes,—form valuable documents for the natural historian.

So great is the superiority of gas-light to that of the common lamp, that the whole of the New Mint, with the surrounding military way, and adjoining edifices, have been lighted with gas. The apparatus is constructed on a new plan, and is erected within the walls of the mint. The gas is prepared, not by distilling coal in retorts, as hitherto, but by means of a cylinder kept red hot, and revolving round its axis. The cylinder is upwards of ten feet in diameter, and produces, in twenty-four hours, a sufficient quantity of gas to light sixteen hundred lamps. The purification of the crude coal-gas is effected by chlorine instead of quicklime, and all the inlet and outlet mains and pipes are made to open and shut by mercurial valves. The quantity of gas daily made and consumed by the burners and lamps is registered, in the absence of the observer, on a dial-plate of a machine, the moving power of which is gas. The effect of the numerous lights scattered upon so extensive a scale over the beautiful machinery of the coining processes, is very striking.

Mr James Kirk, of Smeaton, adopts the following method for preventing the mildew on peach-trees: In the months of January and February, if the trees are in a stunted or sickly state, he takes away all the old mould from the roots as carefully as possible, and puts in its place fresh rotten turf from an old pasture, without any dung; and the trees have not only completely recovered their health, but produced a crop of fine swelled fruit.

Mr Smeall, gardener to Mr Liston, of Millburn Tower, has found out a simple, cheap, and effectual method of preventing hares and rabbits from injuring fruit or other trees by eating the bark in winter. It is this:—Take hog's lard, and as much whale oil as will work it up into a thin paste or paint, with which gently rub the stems of the trees upwards at the fall of the leaf. If this application be repeated once in two years, it will prevent the depredations of those animals, without the slightest injury to the trees

Dr Richard Pearson, of Sutton Coldfield, states, that, after various attempts, he has succeeded in forming a vegetable compound, by which persons engaged in exploring hot and desert regions might be saved from perishing by hunger and thirst. The ingredients are few, reducible to a small bulk, and not liable, in the state of composition, to spoil by keeping. With a pint of jelly made from starch with boiling water, mix two ounces of gum arabic and half a drachm of catechu, both previously reduced to powder, and to the whole then add one drachm of crystallized citric acid, also pulverized. Spread the compound upon a clean board or paper, and gradually dry it in an oven of a gentle heat, till it becomes hard and brittle, when it may be broken into pieces of a proper size for being carried in the pocket. Dr Pearson calculates that two ounces of this compound will sustain life for 24 hours, but supposes, that, during the exertion of travelling, four ounces may be required; so that 2 lbs.

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would last a person, totally destitute of every other sort of aliment, eight days, by which time, he would probably arrive at some place where other food might be procured.

A supplement to the first three volumes of *Mithridates*, commenced by Adelung, and continued by Dr J. S. Vater, has just appeared. A memoir by Baron Von Humboldt on the Basque language forms part of this volume.

Professor Ewers has published in German, at Petersburgh, the first volume of his *History of Russia*, in which particular regard is paid to the internal devolopement of the Russian monarchy. This volume comes down to Peter the Great. The same writer, in association with M. Von Engelhardt, has also published the first part of the first volume of *Contributions to the Knowledge of Russia and its History*. M. Von Engelhardt has moreover given to the public an *Introduction to Geognosy*.

ITALY.

The Abbé Jannelli has discovered in the royal library at Naples, a MS. of Dracontius, a Christian poet of the fifth century. It contains ten short Latin poems, not only inedited, but absolutely unknown. This collection has furnished Jannelli with interesting particulars, which enable him to speak with precision of various circumstances of the life of Dracontius, concerning whom other writers have recorded so many fables. He has not thought fit to publish all these pieces, because most of them ought rather to be called declamations, resembling those of Aristides and Libanius in Greek prose; but merely quotes the principal passages in his life of Dracontius. He has introduced entire only two of the best and most interesting: these are also the longest. The subjects of them are mythological; one is entitled *Media*, and the other the *Rape of Helen*.

Among the MSS. recently discovered in the same library, and since published or about to be published, are the following:—

Treatise on the Pulse, by Mercury, the monk. The Greek text is translated into Latin, and illustrated with a commentary by M. Salvadore Cirillo, secretary of the royal library. The same M. Cirillo has also published—

A Homily of St John Chrysostom, held on Whitsunday, translated from the original Greek into Latin.

A Monody for the Queen, (Irene Paleologa,) written in Latin, by George Gemistius Pletho, with commentaries.

Manuel of Geography, by Nicephorus Blemmidas, translated into Latin from the Greek MS. At press.

Complete Treatise on Urine, by Albizziano, translated into Greek by John Actuarius, from the original Arabic of Avicenna, and into Latin from the Greek version. At press.

Answers of Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople, to the Questions of Amphilochus, translated from the Greek into Latin, with commentaries by the Abbé Angel Antonio Scotti.

Researches have been commenced at Pompeii behind the house of Sallust, otherwise denominated *di Atteone*, from the superb picture of Diana and Actæon which adorns the court-yard. At the depth of seven palms were found four skeletons, two of men, one of a woman, and the fourth of a child. They were covered with a vitrified stratum, of the kind of lava called *rapillo*, volcanic ashes and brown stones. This family had doubtless sought shelter there, when the explosion of Vesuvius threatened destruction to Pompeii and the neighbouring towns. The bones of the child were mingled with those of the mother. It would appear that these unfortunate people had fled with such valuables as they could carry away; and, overtaken by the calamity, had retired to this hut, where they were buried beneath the ashes. On examining the volcanic matter which covered the skeletons, there were found a candelabrium with three feet, in good preservation; a small patera; a fine vase, the handle wanting; another vase partly broken; a mould for pastry, in the form of a shell; three *strigiles*; a fine antique head of a faun in marble; gold bracelets, ear-rings, and rings with engraved stones; 32 pieces of small silver coin, and some other articles. On searching the other parts of the house, various things, which certainly belonged to another family, were found. The munificence of the government spares no expence in prosecuting these researches, and workmen are employed in clearing the ancient road between the Basilica and the temples of Jupiter and Venus, and the house of Fortunata. This space, of about 100 paces, was nearly the centre of the town. In this direction a transverse street has been laid open, with houses on either side, and a fountain.

FRANCE.

The third volume of the History of the Crusades, by M. Michaud, is recently published; it is a very finely written performance, and displays vast research.

The History of Joan of Arc, by M. Le Brun des Charmettes, has just appeared. The author may fairly be said to have exhausted his subject; not content with the documents furnished by the public libraries in Paris, he spent six months at London, in examining the manuscripts at the Tower, and in the British Museum. His work is of great historical importance, and throws new light on the history of that age.

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M. Grivaud de la Vincelle, who possesses a fine cabinet of antiquities at Paris, has just published a very learned work, with the title of *Recueil de Monumens Antiques, la plupart inedits et decouverts dans l'ancienne Gaule*, in 2 vols. 4to, and a volume of plates, which may be considered as a continuation of the collections of Count de Caylus and la Sauvagère. Great part of the antiquities, here described and represented by M. Grivaud, are in his own cabinet, which is worthy of the inspection of all travellers who have any taste for the arts.

In 1815 M. Yvart read some memoirs to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, to prove that the barberry is the cause of that most destructive disease of corn—mildew. He grounded this inference not only on the results of experiments made by himself in 1802, in a field which was for thirteen days covered by an inundation of the Seine, and in 1815 in a field situated at the conflux of that river and the Marne; but also on the vulgar opinion in various parts of France, England, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, and America, and its adoption by persons eminent for agricultural knowledge. M. Yvart therefore assumes it as a fact, that the presence of the barberry is more or less injurious to the growth of corn; that it even powerfully opposes the formation of the germs, and renders the straw very unwholesome for cattle. This opinion is nevertheless attacked in the *Bibliotheque Physico-economique;* and a report on this subject made to the Academy of Sciences at Bourdeaux, by a committee appointed for the purpose, attests, that their experiments have been attended with results contrary to those of M. Yvart; and the committee are therefore of opinion that the barberry, between the flowering of which shrub and that of wheat there is an interval of two months, cannot have any influence upon that grain. This report is inserted in the *Bulletin Polymathique*, which has for several years past been published in monthly numbers at Bourdeaux.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

It has long been known that large masses of native copper exist in the neighbourhood of Lake Superior. On one occasion, a company was formed in England, with a large capital, to work the mines; and on another an agent was to have been sent by order of Congress to explore the mineral treasures of this country. A specimen of this copper has been just received by Dr Mitchill, of New York, from Dr Le Barron, apothecary general of the United States, with information that a body of this virgin metal, heavier perhaps than any in the known world, is now lying in the bed of the Onatanagan river, a stream running into Lake Superior from the south. It is reported to measure in circumference twelve feet at one end, and fourteen feet round at the other. As far as a judgment can be formed, the mass is compact throughout, and of singular purity. The specimen was accompanied by a curious map of the western half of Lake Superior, drawn by a youth of the Chippewa tribe. On this are delineated the Onatanagan, and the place where the native copper exists; as are also all the memorable streams, bays, and islands to the bottom of the Lake.

ISLAND OF JAVA.

The Penang Gazette of Feb. 10, 1816, contains the following article on the volcanic springs of boiling mud in Java:

Having received an extraordinary account of a natural phenomenon in the plains of Grobogna, fifty paals north-east of Solo, a party set off from Solo, the 25th September 1814, to examine it. On approaching the dass or village of Kuhoo, they saw, between two topes of trees, in a plain, an appearance like the surf breaking over rocks, with a strong spray falling to leeward. Alighting, they went to the "Bluddugs," as the Javanese call them. They are situated in the village of Kuhoo, and by Europeans are called by that name. We found them to be on an elevated plain of mud, about two miles in circumference, in the centre of which immense bodies of soft mud were thrown up to the height of ten to fifteen feet, in the form of large bubbles, which bursting, emitted great volumes of dense white smoke. These large bubbles, of which there were two, continued throwing up and bursting seven or eight times in a minute by the watch;—at times they threw up two or three tons of mud. They got to leeward of the smoke, and found it to stink like the washings of a gun-barrel. As the bubbles burst, they threw the mud out from the centre, with a pretty loud noise, occasioned by the falling of the mud on that which surrounded it, and of which the plain is composed. It was difficult and dangerous to approach the large bubbles, as the ground was all a quagmire, except where the surface of the mud had become hardened by the sun; upon this, we approached cautiously to within fifty yards of one of the largest bubbles, or mud-pudding as it might properly be called, for it was of the consistency of custard-pudding, and was about one hundred yards in diameter; here and there, where the foot accidentally rested on a spot not sufficiently hardened to bear, it sunk, to the no small distress of the walker.

They also got close to small bubbles, (the plain was full of them, of different sizes,) and observed it closely for some time. It appeared to heave and swell, and, when the internal air had raised it to some

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height, it burst, and the mud fell down in concentric circles, in which state it remained quiet until a sufficient quantity of air again formed internally to raise and burst another bubble, and this continued at intervals of from about half a minute to two minutes.

From various other parts of the pudding round the large bubbles, there were occasionally small quantities of sand shot up like rockets to the height of twenty or thirty feet, unaccompanied by smoke; this was in parts where the mud was of too stiff a consistency to rise in bubbles. The mud at all the places we came near was cold.

The water which drains from the mud is collected by the Javanese, and, being exposed in the hollows of split bamboos to the rays of the sun, deposits crystals of salt. The salt thus made is reserved exclusively for the use of the Emperor of Solo. In dry weather it yields thirty dudgins of 100 catties each, every month, but in wet or cloudy weather less.

Next morning we rode two and a half paals to a place in a forest called Ramsam, to view a salt lake, a mud hillock, and various boiling pools.

The lake was about half a mile in circumference, of a dirty looking water, boiling up all over in gurgling eddies, but more particularly in the centre, which appeared like a strong spring. The water was quite cold, and tasted bitter, salt, and sour, and had an offensive smell.

About thirty yards from the lake stood the mud hillock, which was about fifteen feet high from the level of the earth. The diameter of its base was about twenty-five yards, and its top about eight feet; and in form an exact cone. The top is open, and the interior keeps constantly boiling and heaving up like the bluddugs. The hillock is entirely formed of mud, which has flowed out of the top;—every rise of the mud was accompanied by a rumbling noise from the bottom of the hillock, which was distinctly heard for some seconds before the bubble burst;—the outside of the hillock was quite firm. We stood on the edge of the opening, and sounded it, and found it to be eleven fathoms deep. The mud was more liquid than at the bluddugs, and no smoke was emitted either from the lake, hillock, or pools.

Close to the foot of the hillock was a small pool of the same water as the lake, which appeared exactly like a pot of water boiling violently; it was shallow, except in the centre, into which we thrust a stick twelve feet long, but found no bottom. The hole not being perpendicular, we could not sound it without a line.

About 200 yards from the lake were two very large pools or springs, eight and twelve feet in diameter; they were like the small pool, but boiled more violently and stunk excessively. We could not sound them for the same reason which prevented our sounding the small pool.

We heard the boiling thirty yards before we came to the pools, resembling the noise of a waterfall. These pools did not overflow—of course the bubbling was occasioned by the rising of air alone. The water of the bluddugs and the lake is used medicinally by the Javanese.

WORKS PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

LONDON.

Dr James Johnson, surgeon to H. R. H. the Duke of Clarence, author of the "Influence of Tropical Climates on European Constitutions," and one of the editors of the Medico-Chirurgical Review, has in the press, dedicated to the Duke of Clarence, An Essay on the Prolongation of Life and Conservation of Health; unfolding original views and fundamental principles for their attainment; and embracing observations on the nature, cause, and treatment of the principal diseases which assail the British constitution in its native climate. To which are added, Practical Researches on the Pathology, Treatment, and Prevention of Gout and Rheumatism in all their Protean forms; the whole adapted to *general* perusal.

The Rev. Archdeacon Pott will speedily publish, in two volumes, a Course of Sermons for the Lord's Day throughout the year, adapted to and chiefly taken from the Service for the Day.

The Rev. Dr Hales has announced, by subscription, a publication in two 8vo volumes, with the title of Faith in the Holy Trinity the Doctrine of the Gospel; and Sabellian Unitarianism shown to be the "God-denying Apostacy."

Miss Eliza B. Lester has in the press, The Quakers, a tale, in a 12mo volume.

The History of Ellesmere and Ross will speedily appear in two volumes, 12mo.

The Rev. Isaac Taylor, of Ongar, is about to publish a work entitled, Self-Cultivation Recommended; or, Hints to a Youth leaving School.

The Northern Courts; containing original memoirs of the Sovereigns of Sweden and Denmark, from 1766 to the present time, including the extraordinary vicissi-

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tudes of the Lives of the Grandchildren of George the Second; by John Brown, author of the Mysteries of Neutralization, &c. is at press, and will shortly be published.

The third and last part of Dr E. D. Clarke's Travels is in the press.

The Rev. F. Homfray will soon publish Thoughts on Happiness, a poem.

An English translation of the German novel, Lawrence Stark, by Professor Engel, is in the press.

A novel entitled, The Actress of the present Day; or, Scenes and Portraits from Real Life, will soon appear, in 3 vols.

The lovers of poetry will rejoice to hear that the Fourth Canto of Lord Byron's Childe Harold has arrived from the Continent.

Mr Matchett, of the *Norfolk Chronicle*, is compiling a Topographical Dictionary of the County of Norfolk, which he hopes to complete in the course of the winter, from official returns and registers, or from his own sources of local information. It is intended to be comprised in one large octavo volume, embellished with maps and views, some of which are already engraved, and printed on royal paper, to correspond with Miller's edition of Bloomfield's History of Norfolk, to which it promises to be a most useful supplement.

Dr Buchanan, well known for a valuable work on Hindostan, will immediately put to press an Account of the Kingdom of Nepaul, where he practised as a physician for several years, during which time he was employed in collecting information relative to the natural, civil, and political condition of that country.

A Narrative of Discoveries in Africa, by Mr Burkhardt, who has been for some years travelling in the countries south of Egypt, in the disguise of an Arab, under the auspices of the African Association, is in the press. He is still prosecuting his discoveries, and is said to entertain sanguine hopes of being able to penetrate to Tombuctoo from the east, and proceed from that city to the western coast.

Mr T. Squire, of Epping, has announced a Grammar of the Elements of Astronomy, enriched with every variety of embellishment of which the subject is susceptible, so as to address the understanding through the medium of the eye.

Mr Luke Howard is preparing for publication a work on Meteorology.

Mr Frederick A. Clarke, of Battersea Rise, will speedily publish An Explanation of the Plan of the Equitable Trade Society and Chamber of Commerce, instituted at London in 1817; together with observations and suggestions, connected with the subject, calculated to promote the improvement of trade; to which are added, the Rules and Regulations of the Institution.

The Rev. Robert Burnside has in the press, the Religion of Mankind, in a series of Essays, in 2 vols. 8vo.

Shortly will be published, in two 12mo. volumes, Delusion, a novel, by the author of Julia of Ardenfield.

Sir Richard Phillips intends to reprint in a separate tract, his Essays on a new Theory of the Physical Laws of the Universe; and to subjoin all the answers which appear, with the names of the writers.

A Prospectus has been issued for publishing, by subscription, in two neat pocket volumes, Poems, by Mr Richard Hatt, author of the "Hermit," &c.; which will be accompanied with an elegant frontispiece, from a design by Lewis.

Mr W. Wright, of Bristol, has a work on the Human Ear nearly ready for publication: in which the structure and functions of that organ will be anatomically and physically explained.

In a few days will be published, "Family Suppers, or Evening Stories, for the Instruction and Amusement of Young Persons;" by Lady Mary H.....; illustrated by sixteen beautiful engravings; and, in the course of a fortnight, the same will be published in French.

The third volume of Mr Shaw Mason's Statistical Survey of Ireland will soon appear.

In a few weeks will be published, a Complete History of the Spanish Inquisition, from the period of its Establishment by Ferdinand V. to the present Time, drawn from the most authentic documents; by Don Juan Antonia Llorente, one of the principal officers of the Inquisitorial Court, chancellor of the University of Toledo, knight of the order of Charles III., and member of several academies.

Dr Coote will speedily publish a third edition of the History of Europe, from the year 1763, to the treaty of Amiens in 1802; and a new volume, continuing the period from 1802 to the pacification of Paris in 1815; these two volumes are written as a continuation of Dr Russell's History of Modern Europe.

Major Wyvill, late of the third Royal Veterans, will shortly publish, by subscription, "His Military Life," containing descriptions of various parts of the world where he has served,—anecdotes of many officers of rank, now living,—and some account of the court-martial by which he was tried when major of the battalion which he commanded above six years.

Captain Maconochie, royal navy, is preparing for the press a summary view of the Statistics and existing Commerce of the principal Shores of the Pacific Ocean, with a detail of some of the most prominent advantages which would seem connected with the Establishment of a Central Colony within its limits. To this Captain M. proposes to

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ubjoin the particulars of a plan for facilitating generally the communication between the whole Southern Hemisphere and the Northern or Atlantic Markets, with a Review of the principal consequences, Political and Commercial, which would seem connected with the adoption of that proposal. The work will be illustrated by a skeleton chart, and the whole will be comprised within the limits of a small octavo volume.

EDINBURGH.

A Monody on the Death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales is in the press, and will appear in a few days. *

The Rev. Alexander Macgowan has nearly completed a treatise, embracing the whole subject of Rhetorical Pronunciation, or Delivery; a work in which the author hopes to communicate many important discoveries, by means of which elocution may now be taught with as great certainty and precision as the grammar of any language.

The work consists of Six Parts:

1. Dissertations on the Present State of Elocution.
2. Lectures on the music or melody of Language.
3. Scientific Theory of Universal Elocution.
4. Metrical Abridgment of the Theory, containing the Rules necessary to be committed to memory; with Examples and Exercises.
5. Illustration of the Theory by Scales of Sounds, and Musical marks.
6. The Theory of Attitudes, and of Action.

Mr James Macgowan will speedily publish A Practical English Grammar, in which, besides other improvements, the Syntax is greatly simplified, by treating, (as Dr Adam has done in his Latin Grammar) *First*, of the construction of *Simple* sentences only; reserving the consideration of *Complex* sentences for a *Second* chapter. By this arrangement, the construction of Relatives and Conjunctions, and all the other difficulties, are delayed till the pupil be sufficiently prepared to encounter them with success.

Dr Thomas Brown is about to publish a new edition of his Enquiry into the relation of Cause and Effect. It will comprehend a view of many of the sources of the prevalent errors on this subject, which were not examined in the two former editions, and will be as much altered in the disposition of its parts, and so nearly rewritten, as to constitute almost a new work.

The Rev. Mr Maturin, author of the tragedy of *Bertram*, is printing a tale, in 3 volumes, entitled, "Women, or *Pour et Contre*."

Speedily will be published, in a series of Letters, a View of the History of Scotland, from the earliest records to the Rebellion in the year 1745.

Captain Thomas Brown, author of "The Elements of Conchology," has in the press the Conchology of Great Britain and Ireland, illustrated with numerous beautiful Engravings.

The same Author has in great forwardness, Zoological Elements, or an Introduction to the Natural History of the Animal Kingdom.

Dr Jameson has in the press an Abridgment of his celebrated Dictionary of the Scottish Language, comprised in one octavo volume.

Mr Warden, late Consul-General to the United States at Paris, has in great forwardness a Statistical and Historical Account of the United States of America, from the period of the first Establishments to the present Day, in 3 vols. octavo.

* Through the kindness of the author (whom we have also the satisfaction of ranking among our earliest contributors) we have been indulged with the perusal of the first half-sheet of this little poem, just sent to press. Our present Number was unfortunately too far advanced to admit of any extracts from it; but we cannot avoid expressing our gratification with the short specimen we have seen, which we know not how to characterize more appropriately than by saying, that it seems quite worthy of the author's talents, and of the very affecting subject which he has chosen.—*Edit.*

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

ARTS, FINE.

Mr Britton, whose meritorious exertions as an antiquary and topographer are so well known, has published an elegant *Vademecum* relative to *Norwich Cathedral*, containing all the requisite information for a visitor. It is illustrated by a neat and correct ground-plan, and well engraved views of the western front, of the font, and of Erpingham-gate.

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ARTS AND SCIENCES.

A Manual of useful Knowledge, being a Collection of valuable and Miscellaneous Receipts and Philosophical Experiments, selected from various Authors; by William Pybus. 18mo. 10s. 6d.

The Journal of Science and the Arts, edited at the Royal Institution. No. 7, with plates. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

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A System of Chemistry; by T. Thomson, M.D. F.R.S. &c. the fifth edition. 4 vols. 8vo. 3l.

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A new Arrangement of Lord Coke's first Institute of the Laws of England, on the plan of Sir Mathew Hale's Analysis, &c.; by J. H. Thomas, Esq. 3 vols. 8vo.

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Memoires de la Societé Royale des Antiquaires de France, Vol. I. 12s.

Riccati, Tableau Historique des Evenemens de 1815 et 1816. 3 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 4s.

Scheffer, Essai sur la Politique de la Nation Anglaise. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

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MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

The French Legislative Assembly was opened by a speech from the King on the 5th November. His Majesty, alluding to the demands of compensation, lately urged against France by the commissioners of the allied powers, states, that he has commenced a negociation with the view of obtaining more moderate and equitable conditions; as, in the present state of France, it is quite impossible to comply with the demands which have been made upon her. The King seems to look forward to the period as not far distant, when foreign troops will be no longer required for maintaining the tranquillity of the country, and the stability of the throne.

Jews.—In a tract lately published at Paris, by M. Bail, the following is given as a fair calculation of the number of Jews in the different quarters of the globe:

In all parts of Poland, before the partition of 1772 -	1,000,000
In Russia, including Moldavia and Wallachia - -	200,000
In all the States in which the German language is spoken	500,000
In Holland and the Netherlands - - - -	80,000
In Sweden and Denmark -	5,000
In France - - -	50,000
In England (of which London contains 12,000) - -	50,000
In the States in which Italian is spoken - - -	200,000
In Spain and Portugal -	10,000
In the United States -	3,000
In the Mahometan States of Asia, Europe, and Africa	4,000,000
In Persia, and the rest of Asia, including China and India	500,000
Total - -	6,598,000

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

A misunderstanding lately prevailed between the Courts of Portugal and Spain, which the interference of the greater powers has prevented from breaking out into open war. On the Spanish frontiers the movements of troops seemed to threaten an immediate invasion of Portugal; and rumour asserted, that the Court of Madrid had determined to make reprisals in Europe, for the Portuguese invasion of Monte Video. The great powers of the Continent, however, would not suffer the peace of Europe to be disturbed; and offered their mediation in such terms that it could not be refused; and conferences are appointed to be held at Paris, for the purpose of bringing about a mutual accommodation.

The Court of Madrid, to facilitate its projects against the revolted colonies, has purchased six sail of the line from Russia, which have already passed the Belt on their way to Cadiz, where they will be manned with Spanish crews, and employed in the transport of troops to America.

General Gomez Friere, and his companions, twelve in number, convicted of a design to overturn the Portuguese Government in May last, underwent their sentence of death on the 18th October at Lisbon, and their bodies, after hanging, were burned to ashes. Baron Eben had his sentence of death changed to perpetual banishment, on the intercession, it is said, of an illustrious person in England.

GERMANY.

It is stated from Prussia, that the Council of Finance has recommended a commercial system, having for its basis the exclusion of all severe import or transit duties, and the introduction of such moderate ones, as, by attracting the foreign merchants, and not oppressing the consumer, will promote the financial prosperity of the state.

Sweden is suffering grievously under the late restrictions imposed upon her commerce. Some of the principal banks in the kingdom have suspended their payments, and the mercantile community is, in consequence, agitated with distrust and alarm.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

About the end of last month, the arrival of intelligence from India, stating that war had broken out in the dominions of the Peshwa, caused a considerable sensation, and fears were entertained of a general and protracted contest with the whole of the Mahratta powers. The frequent incursions of the Pindarees had given rise

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to a suspicion that they were set on by these powers, who but waited a favourable opportunity to shew their hostility to the British authority. The Resident at Poonah, therefore, (the Hon. Mr Elphinstone,) as soon as the war did break out, seized the person of the Peshwa, and committed him to safe custody; and it appears, from subsequent arrivals, that, in consequence of this prompt measure of the Resident, and the imposing state of our whole military force in India, under the Marquis of Hastings, all apprehensions of an immediate war had completely vanished. These accounts are to the date of the 11th June. The Peshwa had delivered up three of his chief forts, as securities for his peaceable conduct; and a reward had been offered for Trimbukjee, the leader of the Mahrattas, in his dominions. Scindia and Holkar, so far from taking part in the war, have given the Marquis of Hastings assurances of support in crushing the Pindarees. Money could be obtained in India at six per cent., and the bills of the Company were at a premium.

CHINA.

There is an article in the Dutch papers, dated from Petersburgh, which states, that the Emperor of China has expressed a wish to have ambassadors at his Court from foreign powers, on the same footing as the powers of Europe. This would rather be a novelty in the policy of China; and it is scarcely to be believed that a determination of this nature on the part of the sovereign, which implies a revolution in all the favourite notions of this singular people, could have been adopted so suddenly and unexpectedly; at any rate, the punctilios necessary to be observed by the European powers would be a bar to any close intercourse.

AFRICA.

REVOLUTION AT ALGIERS.

By a sudden explosion of military violence, the Dey of Algiers, on the 3d October last, lost both his authority and his life. From the details which have been published of this event, it appears, that for more than a month before, symptoms of discontent and insubordination had been observed to prevail among the troops, of which due warning was given to Omar Pacha, the Dey; but he refused to listen to such ungrateful intelligence. Early on the morning of the 3d, however, he was roused from his security by a tumultuous assemblage of about 600 Turkish soldiers, who proceeded to the palace where the Dey was sitting in council with his ministers, and overpowering the palace guard, some of the most furious rushed into the council-room. The Dey endeavoured, but in vain, to appease their fury. He then drew his sword to defend himself, but being overpowered by numbers, he was dragged out into the court-yard and strangled. In the mean time, another body of soldiers had been detached to the city, where they proclaimed Ali Hodja as new Dey, and returned with him in triumph to the palace of the Regency, which he entered a few minutes after the murder of the unfortunate Omar Pacha.

The unpopularity of Omar Pacha, it would appear, arose from his strict adherence to the treaty made with Lord Exmouth; and his successor will no doubt find it a difficult matter, both to preserve the favour of the barbarians, and to prevent the infraction of that treaty, which stipulated for the abolition of Christian slavery. But the present Dey, according to some accounts, will soon have a new and formidable enemy to contend against. It is said that Mahomet Ali, the Viceroy of Egypt, whose military talents are considerable, has formed the design of erecting his province into a State independent of Turkey; and likewise to root out the present governments of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli, and concentrate the whole under his own authority. It is added, that he is seeking the countenance of the Courts of Britain, Russia, and Sweden, in this enterprise.

The plague, which had raged with such virulence at Algiers, that it numbered from 150 to 200 victims per day, had not, by the last accounts, extended to Morocco, a visitation which it probably escaped only by the intervention of the great desert that separates the two countries, and which, in a great measure, cuts off their communication with each other.

THE ASHANTEES.

By recent advices, it appears that the mission, which had some months ago been dispatched from Cape Coast Castle to Cermasie, the capital of the kingdom of Ashantee, had completely succeeded; and that it had met with a most gracious reception from the king. At first the king manifested great coldness and reserve, which is attributed to the endeavour of General Daendels, to excite a feeling hostile to the English; but mutual explanations having removed this unfavourable impression from his majesty's mind, every opportunity, it is alleged, was sought of complimenting the gentlemen composing the mission, with the highest proofs of regard and distinction. The splendour, the order, the variety, and extent of the king's retinue, his subject chieftains, officers, and attendants, had as much exceeded the expectations of the English, as did the decorum and benignity of his manners, and those of his family and courtiers who surrounded him. The po-

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pulation of Cotmasie is estimated at 200,000 souls.

EGYPT.

A letter from Cairo, dated February 1, 1816, gives the following particulars concerning this country:

No people under the sun possess such a capacity for learning foreign languages, and speaking them fluently, as the Egyptians. The Italian is generally spoken by them, and also the French, since the visit of Bonaparte. When foreign vessels are descried from Rosetta or Alexandria, native interpreters and dealers immediately go off to them to make contracts for provisions, &c. A Swedish ship, the first that has been seen at Alexandria for sixteen years, lately arrived at that port. An old Egyptian, with hoary beard, went on board and offered his services in such pure Swedish, that the captain took him for a Swede in disguise.

Since the invasion of the French, several commercial houses from Europe, and, some years since, the great house of Fegtig from Austria, have established themselves at Cairo, where they are doing business. Since the Pacha of Cairo, together with the Arab chiefs, who exercise sovereign sway in their respective districts, has pretty well restored the public tranquillity, and the Egyptians are now not much oppressed with taxes, which so easily excite these people to insurrection, trade and commerce are tolerably brisk.

The notion current in Europe, that there are numerous studs of horses in the deserts of Arabia, is erroneous. A breeder seldom possesses more than 30, or at most 40 head, which he values very highly, and of which he keeps an exact pedigree. The late wars and disturbances have exceedingly raised the prices of these animals; so that entire horses of the best breeds now cost on the spot from 8000 to 10,000 piastres each. Count Huniady, of Hungary, has lately obtained two of these rare creatures, purchased near Aleppo, through the agency of the house of Fegtig, which is at this moment preparing to ship off eleven more, chiefly mares, for Trieste.

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

Navigation Act.—The following notification appears in the Halifax Chronicle of the 11th September, quoted from the Independent Chronicle of the 4th:—

"We are authorized to state, that the collector of the customs for this district has been directed to put the following construction, for the present, on the navigation act of March 1817:—

"Vessels owned in Great Britain may bring into the United States, from the British West India Islands, or any other of her colonies, cargoes consisting of articles the growth, production, or manufacture of said colonies. Vessels arrived in any British colony can take a cargo from another British colony, and bring into the United States. Great Britain and Sweden are the only nations which have a similar regulation to that contained in the navigation act of the United States, and of course they are the only nations which are affected by it."

A very late Philadelphia paper contains the following account of emigrants arrived in that port, from the 31st of August 1816, to the 31st of August 1817:—

From England, Ireland, and Scotland - - -	2018
Holland - - -	2190
France - - -	128
Hamburgh and Bremen -	60
Total	4396

Letters received from Charleston, dated the 16th September, bring the distressing intelligence that the fever, for some time prevalent there, instead of abating, had increased, and that the deaths averaged about a hundred weekly.

The Indians have agreed to cede to the United States, for the use of Georgia, the tract of land lying between Oakmugee River, and the line run under General Jackson's treaty.

The American ship Galen, Captain Tracey, lately made her passage from Boston to the Land's End in fourteen days, and to the London Docks in twenty-three days; and a Liverpool vessel lately went a voyage to Savannah in America, took in a cargo, and returned to Liverpool in sixty-nine days.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Church at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.—The corner-stone of a church, to be erected by subscription, by the inhabitants of Dartmouth and Halifax, aided by a donation from Sir John C. Sherbrooke, was lately laid by his Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, who has also been a liberal subscriber to the undertaking, in the presence and under the auspices of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, Rear Admiral Sir David Milne, K. C. B. the Hon. Commissioner Wodehouse, the Rev. Dr Inglis, and many other respectable parishioners.

PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

By accounts from the Brazils to the middle of August, we learn that the Brazilian Government had sent off orders for the evacuation of Monte Video by the Portuguese troops. By a decree of the 25th of June, the following official appointments

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at the Court of Rio Janeiro had been notified:

President of the Royal Treasury, Joao Paulo Bezerra.

Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and War, the Count de Palmella.

Minister and Secretary of State for the Marine and Transmarine dominion, the Count dos Arcos.

Minister and Secretary of State of the Affairs of the Kingdom and House of Braganza, the Judge Thomas Antonio de Villa.

Nova Portugal, Counsellor of State, the Count de Vunchal.

SPANISH AMERICA.

Throughout the vast colonies of Spain in North and South America, the civil war continues to rage with murderous activity; and till it be determined whether these provinces are to be independent, or to sink again under the hated yoke of the mother country, they must continue to be the scene of desolation and misery. At present affairs seem to promise well for the independence of the South Americans. The inhabitants of Margaretta, by their determined resistance, compelled the royalist General Morillo to evacuate the island, which he had invaded with an army of 3000 men, and a large fleet. The retreat of Morillo was, however, materially influenced by a diversion on the main land, by Marino, the patriot leader in Venezuela. When the Spaniards landed in Margaretta, Morillo put to the sword all that fell into his hands; neither age nor sex were spared; and the inhabitants, who could anticipate nothing from his success but a general extermination, resisted all his efforts, with a bravery bordering on desperation, and succeeded in expelling him from their territory on the 17th August. Four of his ships were afterwards taken by the patriot Admiral Brion. When Morillo fled from Margaretta, he cut the throats, it is said, of all the Creoles who were with him, even those whom he had compelled to fight in his ranks. The independent troops, of course, retaliate these bloody proceedings, and hence the passions of both parties are wound up to the highest pitch of hatred and revenge.

General Macgregor has left the command at Amelia Island; but there seems to be no intention, on the part of the Independents, of relinquishing this station; as he has been succeeded by a Colonel Irvine, who repulsed two attacks made by the Spaniards on the 12th and 13th September, and on the 21st hoisted the Mexican flag, and proclaimed the independence of the island.

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

OCTOBER.

13.—*Large Snake.*—There has been, for some time past, a snake of enormous magnitude secreted in a pond at a short distance from the Priory, a house occupied by Mr Thomson, at Frognell, between Hampstead and West End. The servants of Mr Thomson have frequently seen it, and describe it to be of the thickness of a man's arm, and of a proportionate length. Attempts have been made to shoot it, but in vain. Its motions are uncommonly rapid, and on the least alarm it dives to the bottom of the pond. It seems perfectly harmless in its nature, and hitherto has done no mischief. Frogs and toads, it is supposed, form the principal source of its sustenance.

15.—*Ireland.—Daring Robbery.*—On Sunday evening, the Rev. Archdeacon Collis, with his son, Captain Collis, were sitting in a parlour of their house, in the vicinity of Cork, when a man entered, whose appearance justified the well-founded suspicion of those gentlemen that their visitor came with no good object in view. Captain Collis immediately seized the poker, and a struggle ensued between him and the robber, which was interrupted by the entrance of four or five others, who said it was useless to resist them, which was evident from their number and appearance. They had succeeded beforehand in securing the servants outside. The depredators then surveyed the room, in which was some plate and other articles; but these they did not touch, saying, they would be content with some money, and whatever arms were in the house; and with these demands the Archdeacon and his son, situated as we have described, were obliged to comply. One of the robbers has since been apprehended.

New Viceroy.—The Earl and Countess of Talbot arrived under a suitable escort at Dublin, on Thursday the 9th inst. and the Privy Council being in attendance, his Lordship was immediately sworn into office, and afterwards proceeded to the Vice-regal Lodge, Phœnix Park, where a grand dinner was given by Lord Whitworth. On Friday the Duchess of Dorset and Earl

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Whitworth embarked at Dublin for England. They sailed from the Pigeon-House in the evening, but the wind being contrary, they were obliged to put back, and landed next morning. His Lordship finding the weather not likely to become favourable, took the road to Donaghadee, from whence he embarked for Portpatrick.

Translations of the Bible.—Several copies of the different parts of the Scriptures, in the Hindostanee, Sanscrit, Bengalee, Mahratta, Orissa, and Chinese languages, a copy of Colloquies in Bengalee, and a few of the circular letters which are printed and circulated in India, have been presented by the Rev. Dr Ryland of Bristol, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, to the library belonging to the students in divinity, under the Rev. Dr Lawson, Selkirk. A very elegant copy of the Arabic Bible has also been presented to the same library by the Rev. Thomas Brown, Dalkeith.

The members of the coal trade of the rivers Tyne and Wear have presented a superb service of plate, as a tribute of gratitude, to Sir Humphrey Davy, for his invaluable discovery of the safety lamp.

18.—*Herring Fishery.*—The herring fishing, this season, upon the west coast, is not so favourable as has been represented. Letters from Rothesay mention, that the busses upon an average fall short of half a cargo, after being now above three months on the fishing ground. Herrings, upon the coast, bring, in a fresh state, from 16s. to 21s. per crane.

Singular and sudden rise to Affluence.—A young gentleman, son of a respectable farmer, near Newmarket, has just become possessed of an immense fortune, in the following extraordinary manner: An elderly gentleman, at Shrewsbury, where the young man had been some years at school, had taken a fancy to him, and being without heirs, determined to leave him his property. The gentleman being taken extremely ill within these few weeks, sent for the youth, and caused a free gift of his immense wealth to be legally made out, only stipulating, that in case he survived, the youth should handsomely provide for him during the continuance of his life. He, however, died a short time after he had signed the deed, in which it has been discovered that he possessed more than L. 500,000 sterling. Since the event, the youth's filial and fraternal affection has been most honourably evinced, by his having voluntarily given L. 50,000 each to his father and elder brother.

20.—*Newcastle.*—In the quarter ending 10th October 1816, 97 ships with cargoes from foreign countries were reported inwards at Newcastle; and in the corresponding quarter of the present year, 189; being an increase of 92 ships in the last quarter; a most gratifying proof of the revival of trade.

The proprietors of the Newcastle gas works have already made such progress, that the main pipes are now actually laying down through the principal streets, so that a great part of the town will be lighted this winter.

Another whale.—On Thursday morning last, an immense whale was found at sea, by the fishermen of North Sunderland, which, after great exertion, they succeeded in towing on shore at the pier of that place. Crowds of people have been viewing this stranger on the coast of Northumberland.

24.—*The Army—Half-pay Officers.*—By a circular from the war-office of this date, officers drawing half-pay are required to make affidavit in the following form, by which the officers who have embarked in the cause of the South Americans will be rendered unable to draw their half-pay:

" appeared personally before me, and made oath that he had not, during any part of the period from 25th of 181 , to 24th of 181 , both days inclusive, any other place, or employment of profit, civil or military, under his Britannic Majesty, or in the service of any other Government, besides the allowance granted to him by his Britannic Majesty, as a reduced of the regiment of

Sworn before me at this day of "

Shocking death of a poor Sweep Boy.—Last night an inquisition was held at the Lord Somers' Arms, Grenville Street, Somers' Town, before Thomas Stirling, Esq. Coroner, on the body of Thomas Dowland, a poor little orphan sweep, aged eleven years, apprentice to Hall, a nightman and chimney sweep residing at St Pancras, whose death was caused by suffocation in the flue of the chimney. It appeared from the evidence that he was sent up the flue of an oven; and that he was upwards of an hour in the flue, which was opened, and the deceased taken out thickly covered with soot. He was then carried into the garden for air, and a surgeon was sent for, who came and rubbed him over with some sort of spirits, but the deceased never spoke nor moved after. When the deceased was first brought down the funnel, his master said he ought to have a good thrashing for stopping so long. The jury returned the following verdict: "Died from suffocation, through the culpable neglect of his master." The foreman of the jury requested that the coroner would certify to the parish officers, that it was the opinion of the jury that they ought to prosecute Hall, the master. The coroner observed, that their request would be attended to.

Northern Meeting.—The Northern

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Meeting commenced at Bevemoss on Wednesday the 15th. It was numerously and respectably attended by all the beauty, rank, and fashion of the country, and was kept up with that harmony and spirit which has always distinguished it.

Forest Timber.—A stronger inducement for planting cannot be offered to the attention of any individual, who is in possession of a large tract of waste land, and who looks forward with anxiety to increase his paternal estate, than the following fact:—A fir tree, of the larch species, was lately cut down at Blair, which measured 247 solid feet, which, at the present reduced price of timber, 2s. 6d. per foot, is worth L. 30, 17s. 6d.

Effects of Drought.—In Badenoch, several considerable streams, tributary to the Spey and Dulnan, became so shallow during the dry weather in September, as to allow taking from them many baskets of fish, caught by the hand. Some of these fish were of a large size, and the eldest person in the country has no recollection of a similar occurrence.

27.—*Revenue.—Sinking Fund.*—The Gazette of Saturday night contains a certification from the commissioners of the sinking fund, that up to the 4th of last July they had redeemed of the consolidated debt of Great Britain L. 248,185,141, 1s. 1d. yielding a yearly interest of the sum of L. 10,526,428, 5s. 1½d. being an excess of L. 25,527,845, 4s. 4½d. over the total of the funded debt of Great Britain, created by sundry acts prior to and including 36th Geo. III. c. 74. The amount of Irish debt redeemed is certified to be L. 9,249,840, 19s. being an excess of L. 2,278,694, 5s. 3d. over the total of the Irish debt prior to and created by the two acts of Geo. III. c. 4. and 50.

From the accounts that have been printed by order of the House of Commons, it appears that the gross produce of the revenue of Great Britain for twenty years, (from the 5th of January 1797, to the 5th of January 1817,) amounted to the enormous sum of twelve hundred and ninety-two millions, one hundred and eighty thousand, five hundred and ninety-two pounds, five shillings and three halfpence sterling.

An old Goose.—Mr Meeds, of Mavis Enderby, in Lincolnshire, had a goose died a few days ago, which had been the property of the family for fifty-four years.

Melancholy Shipwreck.—A most distressing occurrence took place on the coast near Cardiff, on Thursday night the 23d. The packet William and Mary, with 60 passengers, from Bristol to Waterford, struck upon the Wolves Rock, about two leagues from Cardiff, and 36 of those on board, among whom were all the women, 22 in number, perished. The mate and a few others escaped in the boat; and some of the passengers were picked up by boats from the shore. The master, who remained by the vessel, went down with her. A Mr Sheetis, a passenger, saved himself by superior swimming, and was picked up after being two hours and a half in the water, during which he beheld the heart-rending scene of his fellow passengers dropping into eternity around him.

28.—Robert Reid, chimney sweeper, who was convicted of being concerned with Joseph Rae in maltreating Rae's apprentice, so as to occasion his death, and was sentenced to be transported for seven years, has received a commutation of his sentence to one year's imprisonment in the tolbooth, from the 8th of September.

30.—*Roman Catholics.*—A society has been formed in Glasgow for the instruction of Roman Catholics, particularly children, in the arts of reading and writing. A meeting was lately held in the large hall of the Black Bull Inn, at which there was a very respectable attendance of both Catholics and Protestants. Kirkman Finlay, Esq. M. P. having been called to the chair, the rules and regulations of the society were presented by Lieutenant Gordon of the royal navy, and unanimously adopted. The society is to be under the management of a committee, of which one half to be Catholics and the other Protestants.

Small-Pox.—In Glasgow and suburbs the small-pox have made their appearance, and at Pollokshaws reinoculation with vaccine matter has been, in some instances, deemed necessary.

Singular Elopement.—Complaint was made to the Lord Mayor, last week, against a gentleman of large fortune, (Mr Holyoake, banker, of Wolverhampton,) aged 50, for having seduced from her friend (a Mr Brown, of Fleet Market) a young lady, aged 18, daughter of Mr Jackson, of Wolverhampton. It appeared that the mother of the girl was heart-broken, and the father almost frantic at the loss of their daughter; and the Lord Mayor recommended that a habeas should be served on the seducer. On Wednesday, Mr Jackson waited upon the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, to return him thanks for his humane and effectual exertions in the unhappy case of his daughter. She had, he said, returned to her parents within the last few days spontaneously, and was now comfortable in the society of her mother and sisters.

31.—*Leith Wet-Docks.*—The second new wet-dock at Leith has just been finished; and being of equal capacity to the first, will add much to the accommodation of the shipping of the port. A very elegant swivel bridge is placed over the entrance from the first to the second dock, and in place of flood-gates, a vessel constructed to fit the gate-way is sunk or raised at pleasure. The new dock was opened for pub-

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lic business yesterday afternoon, and was entered by the Tug steam-boat towing in the London smack Eagle; on board which vessel were the Right Hon. the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh, the Magistrates of Leith, accompanied by the Right Hon. William Dundas, M. P. Colonel Crichton, and several other gentlemen. The vessels entered in grand style, amidst the plaudits of a numerous assemblage. It is gratifying to think that the improving state of the trade of Leith affords the prospect of this dock being immediately in full employment. It is stated that more substantial trade has passed through the books of the Custom-house during the last quarter than for many years past in an equal period.

NOVEMBER.

1.—*Edinburgh.*—The Gas Light Company have had men busily employed for some days in laying pipes for lighting the principal streets of the city. The pipes are of different calibre, from 3 to 6 inches in diameter inside.

The remaining areas for building the east end of the Regent's Bridge have been disposed of by private bargain for L.10,000, which, with L. 25,000 received for those formerly sold, make the immense sum of L. 35,000 for the whole areas.

Executions in Scotland.—It is a remarkable circumstance, and certainly matter of deep regret, that in the month of October 1817, it should have been found necessary to execute eleven persons in Scotland. On the 10th, Bernard and Hugh Macilvogue, and Patrick Macristal, were executed at Greenock for the crimes of stouthrief, rape, and robbery. On the 17th, William Robertson and Joseph Cairns, for robbery and theft, aggravated by assault and housebreaking, and Margaret Crossan, for wilful and malicious fire-raising, suffered the same sentence at Ayr. On the 29th, William Mackechnie, and John Macormick, for shopbreaking, and Freebairn Whitehill, for robbing a carrier, were hanged in Glasgow. And on the 31st, G. Wylie and M. Clark, for housebreaking and theft, suffered death at Perth. Most of these wretched convicts were under 30 years of age, and all of them behaved with becoming penitence for their crimes, and resignation to their punishment.

3.—*Deaf and Dumb, &c.*—We feel great pleasure in observing, that those unfortunate people, the deaf, dumb, and blind, are now no longer to be left in that helpless and melancholy state, in which they have too long been allowed to remain, nor to be deprived of that most important and essential object to rational creatures, a knowledge of religion, and instruction in various branches of education. Benevolent institutions are now to be attempted at Glasgow, Paisley, Aberdeen, and Inverness, for the benefit of this benighted class of society; and certainly so laudable an undertaking cannot fail to interest the public at large, and to receive that patronage and support it so fully merits, and is in every point of view calculated to attract.

Wellington Monument.—Monday, the 27th ult. the ceremony took place of laying the foundation of the monument to be erected on Blackdown Hill, Somerset, in honour of the Duke of Wellington.

Royal visit to Bath.—Some time since the Queen was advised by her physicians to drink the Bath waters, not on account of any decline of her Majesty's general health, but because the doctors thought the general tonic quality of the waters might be useful to her. Accordingly this day, her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth, left Windsor, and arrived safely at five in the evening, at the spacious and elegant apartments in Sidney Place, which had been previously prepared for their reception. The town was illuminated brilliantly for the occasion, all the bells were set a ringing, and these illustrious personages were greeted with one enthusiastic acclamation from the numerous persons assembled to welcome their arrival.

4.—*Scottish Burgh Reform.*—At page 260 of our last number, we noticed the successful application of the inhabitants of Montrose to the royal authority, for a more liberal system of burgh government than they had hitherto enjoyed; and at page 282, the movements which had taken place in Paisley, Dundee, and Perth, on the same subject. From the intelligence we have subsequently received, both through private communications and notices in the public papers, it appears that this question is likely to become one of general interest throughout Scotland. According to the present system of burgh government in Scotland, the great body of the inhabitants appear to have no voice in the management of burgh affairs. The old councils generally elect the new, and these two bodies thereafter chuse the office-bearers or magistrates. These self-elected governors are responsible to no higher authority whatever for their intromissions with or management of the burgh funds; and the evil consequence of this want of control, on the part of the inhabitants at large, has recently been exemplified in the avowed bankruptcy of the burghs of Aberdeen and Dumfries. The reformation desired, therefore, is of a specific and acknowledged evil; and if, as has been asserted, the properties of individual burgesses are liable for the public debts of the burgh, the voice which they desire to exercise in the election of their magistrates cannot surely be conceived unreasonable. The remedy required is quite partial in its

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operation,—it does not touch the main parts of the constitution, and even to the most timid, therefore, it cannot occasion any alarm.

Having premised thus much, we shall now revert shortly to the Montrose poll-election, and then proceed to notice what has come to our knowledge respecting the proceedings in other places.

Montrose.—Agreeably to the royal warrant, the inhabitants met in the parish church, on the 13th of October, in presence of the Sheriffs of Forfar, Kincardine, and Perth shires, as commissioners under the Royal authority. The election then commenced, and did not finish till Thursday the 16th, when Charles Barclay, Esq. was declared provost; James Clark, George Shepherd, and William Caird, Esquires, bailies; Alexander Smart, Esq. hospital master; William Anderson, Esq. treasurer, and James Burnes, Esq. dean of guild. The sheriffs then congratulated the magistrates and citizens on the order and decorum which had been preserved during the election, and on their having now got a constitution of a most liberal and popular kind; the sheriff of Perthshire remarking, that although three centuries ago it had been found necessary to repress popular elections by a restrictive enactment, he hoped that in the long space which had intervened, this country had advanced so far, as to make it now quite safe to trust it with a more extended franchise. The event was next day celebrated by a public dinner in the town hall, where the greatest order and harmony prevailed.

Edinburgh.—At a meeting of the Merchant Company of this city, on the 20th ult. the important subject of burgh reform was brought under its consideration; and several resolutions were proposed, preparatory to a general discussion of the subject on that day month, which were passed without opposition. Since that period a number of the incorporations have met, and passed resolutions expressive of their determination to adopt every legal measure to accomplish the wished for object, and appointing committees to correspond with other public bodies on the subject. In one of the incorporations, however, that of the cordiners, the general motion was met by an amendment to defer the consideration of the question for one month, which was carried by a division of 15 against 10; the deacon voting in the minority. Besides the general objection to the self-election of the Edinburgh municipal governors, the trades complain of a degrading control exercised by the magistrates over them in the election of their deacons. Preparatory to the election, a list containing six names is sent to the magistrates, who claim the right of striking off three from the number, and from the names remaining on the list, the incorporation then chuses its deacon. And as the deacon is ex officio preses of the incorporation, the surgeons particularly complain of this control; as, however, they may find one of their number qualified by his learning to preside at their meetings, they cannot call such a person to office, unless he is perfectly agreeable in every respect to the magistrates of the city.

Musselburgh.—On the 29th ult. a meeting of the feuars and burgesses of Musselburgh was held, pursuant to advertisement, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of applying to the Prince Regent for a new set for that burgh. Bailie Young having been called to the chair, a committee from the council, incorporations, and principal inhabitants, was chosen to draw up a new set for the burgh, and to lay the same before another general meeting of the burgesses for their approbation. The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to the magistrates for calling the burgesses together, and for the liberal and handsome manner with which they entered into the measure. The meeting, we understand, was numerous and respectable.

Glasgow.—The liberality displayed by the Lord Advocate, on the subject of burgh reform, is likely to make it popular in every part of Scotland. We understand that in this city some efforts will shortly be made for a change in the set of the burgh; and it is expected that the proceedings will commence with the Trades' House, a respectable body, (composed of the heads of the fourteen incorporations,) who have not even the choice of their own convener.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

Ayr.—On the evening of the 4th instant, a numerous meeting of the burgesses of this town met in the King's Arms, and chose a committee of fifteen, including the present convener and a number of the deacons of the corporations, to consider of the most proper method of bringing about a free representation of the burgh, and to frame resolutions for that purpose, to be laid before a subsequent meeting.

Dumfries.—(Extract of a Letter.)—The town-council met this day (27th October) to deliberate what measures should be pursued in the present embarrassed state of the burgh's finances, seeing that the trust-deed executed by the council had been rejected by several considerable creditors, particularly two friendly societies. In the course of the discussion, Bailie Rankine observed, that it was vain for the council to expect the confidence of their creditors under the present system of burgh government; that nothing less than a reformed set of the burgh would satisfy the creditors, that prudence and economy would be introduced into the management of

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the funds; that a change of the set was the unanimous wish of the inhabitants; it was called for by the lessons of dear-bought experience, by the necessities of the burgh, and by the dictates of obvious reason, to which every feature of the existing system was repugnant. It was his intention to propose to the council, at their next meeting, such a change in the set as would destroy the principle of self-election, and subject the council to proper responsibility. He did not mean to take the members of council by surprise; on the contrary, he entreated them to give the subject their most serious consideration; and when the motion was made, to vote for or against it as their conscience should direct. What will be the fate of Bailie Rankine's motion I know not, but it augurs well for the success of it, that several of the leading gentlemen of the council have declared it to be in their contemplation to propose an alteration in the set. If, however, the motion should fail, the inhabitants can be at no loss how to act and decide. At this crisis they have a commanding strength, which before they never possessed; they have before them the memorable examples of Montrose, Aberdeen, and Dundee, and they have more impregnable grounds to proceed upon than the inhabitants of any of these burghs.

Dundee.—The Town Council met on the 13th October, when Provost Riddoch, after making a long address in vindication of his conduct, concluded with the following motion:—"That the Council shall call a meeting of the burgesses of Dundee, resident within the royalty, or actually carrying on trade there, though resident in the suburbs, to be held in the Steeple Church, on Wednesday, the 29th current, at eleven o'clock forenoon, for appointing a committee of their number to meet with a committee of the Council, for the purpose of framing a New Set, or Constitution for Dundee, similar to the one lately given to Montrose; to be afterwards submitted to the Council and Burgesses for their approbation; and when approved of, that a petition by the Council, and all parties concerned, shall be forthwith presented to the King in Council, praying his Majesty to sanction and confirm the alterations so agreed upon." This motion was carried unanimously, and the whole of the Council signed the minutes. Deacon Ivory moved a vote of thanks to Provost Riddoch, which was seconded by Deacon Mudie, and carried unanimously. The meeting accordingly took place on the 29th, and the business proceeded in an amicable manner. The petition is, therefore, in progress, in the hope of a favourable result.

Inverness.—Pursuant to advertisement, a numerous and respectable meeting of Guild-brethren of this burgh took place in Geddes's hotel, on Saturday, the 25th October, when a committee was appointed to present to the Provost a petition formerly agreed on for recovery of their rights. The petition was afterwards delivered by them to the Provost, who received the deputation with great politeness, and stated that he would lay the petition before the Town Council.

Forres.—The burgesses and guildry of Forres resolved to enter a protest against the legality of the late election of Magistrates of that burgh, at the last Michaelmas Head Court; but the Magistrates refused to admit them into court. They have, therefore, protested against this exclusion, and have appointed a committee of burgesses to take proper measures for obtaining redress.

Singular Attachment.—A watchman, whose duty lies in the New Town of Edinburgh, about a week after his appointment to his present district, was visited by two tabby cats, which very soon became familiarized with him to a surprising degree.—Since their first appearance, about two years ago, they have never, even for a single evening, absented themselves. As regularly as he goes to his post, whatever may be the state of the weather, he finds his two friends anxiously expecting him. During the remainder of the night they never leave him for a moment. They follow him in his round, and whenever he makes a halt, they lie quietly down at his feet. As a remarkable proof of their sagacity, which is not generally considered a predominant quality in these animals, the following circumstance may be mentioned: For a month past, the watchman had been off duty in consequence of bad health. During his absence, they formed a slight acquaintance with his temporary successor, but this had no appearance of ripening into cordiality. On their old friend's return to his post on Friday se'ennight, they immediately recognised him, manifested their joy in every possible manner, and commenced their usual nightly routine of business with him.

5. *Grand Triumphal Arch.*—The commissioners, it is said, have come to a determination to erect a grand monument to commemorate our victories by land and sea. The spot selected is at the bottom of St James's Street, London, where the Court-yard now stands. The arch is to be of the most magnificent proportions, and the model to be taken from that of Constantine.

Roger O'Connor, Esq.—On Friday, the 3d instant, Daniel Wasing was brought to trial at the Commission Court, Dublin, charged with perjury in his evidence on the late trial of Roger O'Connor, Esq. at Trim. The prisoner, after a long trial, was pronounced by the jury Not Guilty; but was

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detained in custody, arrangements having been made to send him and Owen, the other informer, out of the country. Mr O'Connor underwent a long cross-examination, principally respecting his religious belief, in the course of which he avowed his disbelief in divine revelation, saying, he believed our Saviour was the dupe of his own imagination. The judge told the jury, that although he would not say Mr O'Connor's testimony was altogether to be discredited, yet, after the avowal he had made, he left it with themselves to give what credit to his evidence they thought proper. The consequence was the acquittal of the prisoner.

Liverpool.—It is affirmed that there are more new houses building at this time in Liverpool, than at any one period since the establishment of the port.

Accidents in Coal-mines.—The following fatal accident is another example of the folly and danger of using candles in place of safety-lamps in coal-mines: The week before last the workmen in the coal-pit in the Newton Green, Ayr, went to work with candles, when the flame of the candle of one of the men, who was working apart from the rest, came in contact with inflammable gas, and by the explosion, the man last mentioned was killed on the spot. Another man, who was working in another part of the pit, on hearing the explosion, instantly ran to the place from whence it proceeded to assist his fellow-workman, or to see if his two sons, who were at work near the spot, were safe; and he also was suffocated to death. The two sons, however, and the other workmen in the pit, escaped unhurt. We are informed, that this coal-work is amply provided with safety-lamps, and that the circumstance of candles being used instead of lamps, proceeds principally from the workmen themselves incautiously preferring the candle-light to that emitted from the lamp.

7.—*Trials and Executions at Derby for High Treason.*—The trials of the persons accused of conspiring against the King and Government in June last, in the counties of Derby and Nottingham, took place at Derby before a Special Commission, and terminated on Saturday the 18th ult. in the conviction and sentence of four of the principal conspirators, namely, Jeremiah Brandreth, who was called the Nottingham Captain, William Turner, the second in command, Isaac Ludlam, and George Weightman. It appeared very clearly, from the testimony of the various witnesses, adduced on these trials, that a large body of the lower orders, resident in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, had determined, however contemptible their means might appear, to attempt a revolution. For this purpose meetings had been held at Pentridge and other places, guns, pistols, and pikes procured, and Brandreth recognized as a chief. On the night of the 9th of June, (which was appointed for the general rising of the disaffected,) Brandreth, at the head of about 100 persons from the neighbourhood of Pentridge, Southwingfield, &c. armed with guns, pikes, &c. set out for Nottingham; they were to be joined by other parties on Nottingham Forest, and to proceed to Nottingham in a body. On their route they attacked various houses, demanding and taking guns, &c. and obliging the men to join them, for refusing to do which, Brandreth shot a servant of Mrs Hepworth of Southwingfield, who immediately after died of the wounds. On their nearer approach to Nottingham, George Weightman (one of the prisoners) was sent forward to that place, to see how matters went on; he returned, and with a view to cheer the party, told them that Nottingham was taken by the revolutionists, and all was going on well. The party told those whom they had forced into their ranks, that the Government did nothing but plunder them, and must be overturned; and James Barnes (another of the prisoners) said on the road, that he had seen a letter the day before, by which he learned that the keys of the Tower of London would be given up to the Hampden Club party, if they were not already. At several of the houses which they plundered, they told the inmates, that if they did not join them, they would be swept away by a cloud of revolutionists who were on their march from Yorkshire and the North. On the arrival of the party on Nottingham Forest, a small body of the military from Nottingham came up; the ringleaders then attempted to form the party in a fighting attitude, but they threw down their arms and fled; many escaped, some were taken by the cavalry, and others were afterwards apprehended by the civil power.

At the conclusion of these trials, the agents for the other prisoners proposed to the crown solicitor to withdraw their plea of not guilty, and throw themselves on the mercy of the crown. This they accordingly did, and twenty of them were brought up and received sentence on Saturday, the remainder being discharged. It is expected the sentence on those who thus pleaded guilty will be changed to various terms of banishment or imprisonment, according to their degrees of guilt; Weightman has also been respited to the 14th instant, and it is thought will be banished; but the sentence of the law was this day carried into execution upon the other three. After hanging till dead, their heads were separated from their bodies with an axe, the executioner holding them up successively, and proclaiming, "This is the head of a traitor."

10.—*Lamented Death of the Princess*

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Charlotte of Wales and her Infant Child.—The intelligence of this unlooked for and afflicting catastrophe reached us with the London post of yesterday, and has spread among all ranks of society one common sentiment of deep lamentation and sorrow. Such a tragical event, even in private life, cannot be contemplated without the deepest emotion: but in the present case, public considerations are blended with feelings of sympathy for individual suffering; for, by the death of this beloved, but ill-fated princess, are cut off all hopes of a direct succession to the Crown of these kingdoms. It was at nine o'clock on Wednesday evening, the 5th instant, that the Princess, after a tedious but apparently not dangerous labour, was delivered of a still-born male child, at Claremont-House, in the vicinity of London; and her situation continued to be favourable till about half-past twelve next morning, when some alarming symptoms began to appear, and at half-past two she expired in the presence of her beloved consort, Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, whose attentions to her had been most assiduous and affectionate, and whose consequent affliction it is beyond the power of language to describe. Expresses were immediately dispatched to her illustrious father at Carleton-House, to the Queen at Bath, and the other branches of the Royal family, acquainting them with the irreparable loss which their house had sustained; and in London, and throughout the country, all the anxious preparations that had been made in the view of a favourable event, have now given place to general and deep felt lamentation.

A very few minutes previous to the delivery of the Princess, it was known that the infant was alive; and her Royal Highness bore the intelligence of the child being still-born with much resignation. She continued sensible to the moment of her death. About five minutes before she breathed her last, she said to the medical attendants, "Is there any danger?" They replied, by requesting her Royal Highness to compose herself. She breathed a gentle sigh, and expired.

And thus, in the enjoyment of health and beauty—at the early age of 22, was snatched away from this world this accomplished Princess. She was neither too tall nor too short, about the middle size, inclining rather to the *embonpoint*, but not so much so as to impair the symmetry of her form. Her complexion was beautifully fair—her arms delicately rounded, and her head finely placed. There was a mingled sweetness and dignity in her look, a full, intelligent eye; and when she was engaged in conversation, particularly in familiar conversation, much liveliness in the expression of her countenance.—The resemblance to her illustrious father was striking. To these accomplishments of person, her Royal Highness added the more valuable qualities of the mind and heart. She had read much, and with discrimination, particularly since her marriage. One of her most pleasing occupations was to accompany her illustrious consort in his study of the English language, in which he was so diligent, that he has been able to read our best writers upon history and jurisprudence. She was of religious habits, and a strict observer of the Sabbath, as well as her husband, who regularly read to her, after the church service, one of our best English sermons. She was a most affectionate child; and, as a wife, was a model for her sex. She looked up to her husband with the most perfect affection and respect; and he deserved it all. His influence over her was unbounded, though the exercise of it was of the gentlest kind.

Orders were issued on the 7th for the Court to go into mourning; and it was requested at same time, that all persons should put themselves into decent mourning; which will no doubt be as general as ever took place in this or any other country.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Acts passed in the 57th Year of the Reign of George III. or in the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Cap. XXXV. *For punishing Mutiny and Desertion; and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters.*—June 20.

Number of forces, 121,035.

Cap. XXXVI. *To regulate the Trade to and from the Places within the Limits of the Charter of the East India Company, and certain Possessions of his Majesty in the Mediterranean.*—June 20.

Cap. XXXVII. *To explain and amend an Act of the Fifty-third Year of his present Majesty, relating to Tolls on Carriages used in Husbandry, and to remove Doubts as to Exemption of Carriages, not wholly laden with Manure, from Payment of Toll.*—June 20.

Not to exempt certain carriages from tolls.

Cap. XXXVIII. *To continue, until*

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the 15th day of June 1818, an Act of the 52d Year of his present Majesty, for the more effectual Preservation of the Peace, by enforcing the Duties of Watching and Warding.—June 20.

Cap. XXXIX. *To extend certain Provisions of the Acts of the 30th and 52d Years of the Reign of his present Majesty to Matters of Charity and Friendly Societies.*—June 20.

Cap. XL. *To authorize the rewarding Officers of the Customs for their Services in preventing illicit Distillation in Scotland, under an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament.*—June 20.

Cap. XLI. *To repeal two Acts passed in the 54th and 55th Years of his present Majesty, relating to the Office of the Agent General, and for transferring the Duties of the said Office to the Offices of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War.*—June 20.

Cap. XLII. *To revive and continue, until the 25th Day of March 1819, an Act made in the 44th Year of his present Majesty, for permitting the Exportation of Salt from the Port of Nassau, in the Island of New Providence, the Port of Exuma, and the Port of Crooked Island in the Bahama Islands, in American Ships coming in Ballast.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIII. *For granting, for Two Years from the 5th Day of July 1817, Bounties on Sugar refined otherwise than by Claying.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIV. *To allow Corps of Yeomanry or Volunteer Cavalry, when assembled for the Suppression of Riots or Tumults, to be quartered and billetted, and Officers on Half Pay to hold certain Commissions in such Corps, and to exempt Members in such Corps from serving the Office of Constable.*—June 27.

Cap. XLV. *For the Continuation of all and every Person or Persons in any and every Office, Place, or Employment, Civil or Military, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Dominion of Wales, Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, Isles of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sarke, and Man, and also in all and every of his Majesty's Foreign Possessions, Colonies, or Plantations, which he or she shall hold, possess, or exercise during the Pleasure of the Crown, at the time of the Death or Demise of his present Majesty, until removed or discharged therefrom by the succeeding King or Queen of this Realm.*—June 27.

Cap. XLVI. *To prevent the issuing and circulating of Pieces of Copper or other Metal, usually called Tokens.*—June 27.

No copper tokens to be made or issued or circulated.

Every person who shall, after the said 1st of January 1818, circulate or pass, as for any nominal value in money or goods, any such token, shall for every such token so circulated or passed, whether such person shall be or have been concerned in the original issuing or circulation of any such token, or only the bearer or holder thereof for the time being, forfeit any sum not less than two shillings nor more than ten shillings, at the discretion of the justice or justices of the peace who shall hear and determine such offence.

Not to affect Bank of England tokens.—Sheffield penny tokens issued for the relief of the poor may circulate to 25th March 1823.—Birmingham penny tokens issued for the relief of the poor may circulate to 25th March 1820.

Cap. XLVII. *For settling and securing Annuities on Lord Colchester, and on the next Person to whom the Title of Lord Colchester shall descend, in consideration of his eminent services.*—June 27.

Cap. XLVIII. *To make further Provision for the Adjustment of the Accounts of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and for making good any occasional Deficiency which may arise in the said Fund in Great Britain or Ireland respectively; and to direct the Application of Monies by the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIX. *For altering and amending the Laws of Excise with respect to Salt and Rock Salt.*—June 27.

Cap. L. *To continue an Act made in the 54th Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to provide for the preserving and restoring of Peace in such Parts of Ireland as may at any Time be disturbed by seditious Persons, or by Persons entering into unlawful Combinations or Conspiracies."*—June 27.

Cap. LI. *To regulate the Celebration of Marriages in Newfoundland.*—June 27.

Cap. LII. *To alter an Act passed in the 11th Year of the Reign of King George the Second, for the more effectual securing the Payment of Rents, and preventing Frauds by Tenants.*—June 27.

The remedies by the said recited act given to lessors and landlords, in case of any tenant deserting the premises, and leaving the same uncultivated or unoccupied, so as no sufficient distress can be had to countervail the arrears of rent, shall be extended to the case of tenants holding any lands, &c. at a rack-rent, or where the rent reserved shall be full three-fourths of the yearly value of the demised premises, and who shall be in arrear for one half year's rent, (instead of for one year, as in the said recited act is provided and enacted,) and who shall hold such lands, &c. under any demise or agreement either written or verbal, and although no right or power of re-entry be reserved or given to the landlord in case of non-payment of rent.

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PATENTS LATELY ENROLLED.

PHILIP HUTCHINSON CLAY, of London, gentleman, for a combination of machinery, for the purpose of repairing and improving turnpike and other roads and highways, and preserving and keeping the same in good order. May 22, 1817.

SETH HUNT, of the United States of America, now residing in Covent Garden, Middlesex, Esq., for an improved escapement for clocks and watches, and chronometers. Communicated to him by a foreigner residing abroad. May 22.

ROGER DIDOT, formerly a paper manufacturer in France, but now of Paddington, Middlesex, son of Peter Francis Didot, jun. late a celebrated printer in Paris, deceased, for certain improvements upon the machines already in use for making wove and laid paper in continued lengths or separate sheets. May 22.

GEORGE MANWARING, of Marsh Place, Lambeth, Esq., for improvements in steam-engines. May 22.

SETH HUNT, of the United States of America, now residing in Covent Garden, Middlesex, Esq., for certain combinations of improvements in machinery for making pins. Communicated to him by a foreigner residing abroad. May 23.

CHARLES WYATT, of Bedford-row, Middlesex, coppersmith, for a new method or methods of preventing any disadvantageous accumulations of heat in manufacturing and refining sugar. June 3.

BENJAMIN AGER DAY, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, for certain improvements in chimney ornaments, which said chimney ornaments are so constructed, that they may be used for fire-screens, flower or sweet jars, timepiece cases, candlesticks, toast-stands, and various other purposes. June 3.

GABRIEL TIGERE, Duke's Court, Bow Street, Middlesex, gentleman, for a process or method of manufacturing writing paper in such a manner as that it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, afterwards to extract or discharge any writing from such paper. June 3.

JOHN PARNALL, of St Anstell, Cornwall, brazier, for a method of tinning, or covering with tin, sheets or plates of copper, brass, or zink. June 10.

THOMAS WHITTLE, of Chester, Wharfinger, and GEORGE EYTON, of the same city, gentleman, for a new or improved kiln, for the purpose of drying malt, wheat, oats, barley, peas, beans, and other substances, by means of steam, assisted by air. June 10.

THOMAS WEDLAKE, of Hornchurch, Essex, agricultural implement maker, for certain improvements on ploughs. July 5.

DAVID BREWSTER, of Edinburgh, Doctor of Laws, for a new optical instrument, called the Kaleidoscope, for exhibiting and creating beautiful forms and patterns of general use in all the ornamental arts. July 10.

SAMUEL BROWN, of Mark Lane, Commander in his Majesty's Royal Navy, for an improvement in the construction of a bridge by the formation and uniting of its component parts in a manner not hitherto practised. July 10.

WILLIAM HENRY SIMPSON, of Bickington, Devonshire, mechanic, for certain improvements in the machinery for the spinning of wool, cotton, and other fibrous substances. July 10.

RICHARD FARMER BRAIN, of Salford, Lancaster, brewer, for an improvement or apparatus calculated to obtain or generate gas in a more economical manner than heretofore from coal, or any other article, material, or substance, for lighting or heating houses, manufactories, or other places where light or heat is required. July 10.

HENRY TRITTON, of Clapham, Surrey, Esq., for an apparatus for distilling. July 15.

THOMAS ASPINWALL, Esq. of Bishopsgate Churchyard, London, for an eliptic valve-pump-box. July 16.

REUBEN PHILLIPS, of Exeter, gentleman, for a method of purifying gas for the purpose of illumination. July 19.

GEORGE WYKE, of Bath, Somersetshire, Esq. and EDWARD SHORTER, of Union Street, Borough, Surrey, mechanic, for certain improvements in the construction of wheel carriages. July 19.

PETER HAMLIN, of Albany Place, Kent New Road, Camberwell, Surrey, merchant, for an improvement or improvements in the making a cement or composition for ornaments and statues, and for making artificial bricks, or an imitation of bricks, tiles, and stones, and joining and cementing the same, and for erecting, covering, and decorating buildings, internally and externally; and also an improvement or improvements in the mixing, working, and moulding of the said cement or composition upon any sort of materials, or in working and moulding whole and entire erections and substances therewith. July 19.

FREDERICK BRUNTON, of Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, gentleman, for a mode of employing silk or other materials in the making of hats and bonnets. July 19.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Sept. 4.—The Marischal College of Aberdeen conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws and Logic on the celebrated French philosopher, Jean Baptiste Biot; and also on Captain Thomas Colby, of the Royal Engineers.

29.—Lieutenant and Adjutant Robert Gilbert, of the Royal Marine Artillery, to wear the insignia of the Imperial Russian Order of St Wladimir, of the fourth class, conferred by the Emperor of Russia.

Oct. 10.—The honour of Knighthood conferred upon Thomas William Stubbs, Esq. Major-General in the Portuguese service.

15.—The Earl of St Vincent to wear the insignia of an Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword.

14.—Charles Manners St George, Esq. to be his Majesty's Secretary of Legation at the Court of Stockholm.

15.—The University of Glasgow conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on the Rev. John Russell, minister of Dalserf.

20.—Admiral Sir George Campbell, K. C. B. to be a groom of his Majesty's bed-chamber, in room of Charles Herbert, Esq. deceased.

Dublin, Oct. 25.—This day, the Hon. Justice Mayne was sworn in one of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench, and Mr Serjeant Johnson one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. The vacancy made by Mr Serjeant Johnson's elevation is filled by Mr Burton, who is now the third Serjeant.

28.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen to be Lord Rector of the University and King's College of Aberdeen. And Patrick Milne, Esq. of Crimonmogate, M. P.; Alexander Moir, Esq. of Scotstown; Thomas Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy; and Robert William Duff, Esq. of Fetteresso, to be his assessors.

29.—The honour of Knighthood conferred upon Robert Gifford, Esq. his Majesty's Solicitor-General.

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30.—The Rev. W. B. Smith of Edinburgh has been chosen Professor of Greek and Humanity in the Belfast Academical Institution.

—The Marischal College of Aberdeen have conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on Mr William Knight, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the College of Belfast.

31.—Alexander Ferrier, Esq. to be British Consul for the ports of Rotterdam, Helvoet, Dordrecht, Schiedam, and the Brill.

Nov. 1.—Mr J. F. Denovan to be Consul for Hanover at Leith.

—John Stevenson, Esq. of Berwick, is appointed Collector of Customs of that port, vice James Clunie, Esq. deceased.

Chief Magistrates of Scottish Burghs, &c.

Campbeltown—Colin Maclarty of Chestervale
Dingwall—Alexander Mackenzie of Hilton
Earlsferry—John Bruce
Haddington—John Martine
Irvine—Right Hon. Earl of Eglinton
Kirkintilloch—John Freeland
Kirkwall—James Riddoch of Cairston
Leslie—Thomas White, sen.
Maybole—Adam Niven
New Galloway—Thomas Grierson
Newton-upon-Ayr—James Wallace
North Berwick—John Dalrymple

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

Oct. 17.—The Rev. John Morton, to the Rectory of Thrigby, Norfolk.

—Rev. Joseph L'Oste, to the Rectory of Postwich, Norfolk.

—Rev. Richard John Geklart, to the Rectory of Little Billing, Northamptonshire.

—Rev. Charles James Blomfield, to the Rectory of Tuddenham, Suffolk.

—Rev. John Trevenen, jun. to the Rectory of Claud, in Cornwall.

28.—Rev. John Brooklebank, D.D. to the Rectory of Taversham, county of Cambridge.

30.—Rev. William Jones, to the Rectory of Searthe, Lincolnshire.

—Rev. J. B. Jenkinson, to the Deanery of the Cathedral of Worcester.

Nov. 1.—The Rev. Alexander Torrence, on the presentation of James Tytler of Woodhouselee, Esq. to be assistant and successor to the Rev. William Torrence, his father, in the church and parish of Woodhouselee, or Glencorse.

4.—The Rev. W. Webb, D. D. master of Clare Hall, Cambridge, to be Vice-Chancellor of that University.

6.—Rev. James Anderson, to be Minister of the Associate Congregation of Dunblane.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

THE abstract in our last number extended from the middle of September to the middle of October. We apprehend, however, that our readers will be better pleased with the results of an entire month, and we have therefore given below an abstract for the whole of October. The weather, during the greater part of this period, was dry and steady, though unusually cold. The mean temperature of the last half of October has generally been found to be nearly the mean annual temperature of the place, but the remark has certainly not been verified this year. The mean temperature of the place where our observations are made, is from 45 to 46, but the mean of the last 15 days of October has been only 40¾, and that of the whole month 41¾. The mean of October 1816, at the same place, was considerably above 46. The weather, notwithstanding, was on the whole favourable, till towards the end of the month, when it became colder and wet with hurricanes of wind. The mean state of the atmosphere, with regard to dryness during the month, was 0.0015 grains of moisture to the cubic inch.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

OCTOBER 1817.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	48.064
. . . . . cold,	36.274
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	42.887
. . . . . 10 P. M.	39.355
. . . of daily extremes,	42.169
. . . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	41.371
. . . 4 daily observations,	41.770

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 47)	29.886
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 47)	29.893
. . . both (temp. of mer. 47)	29.890

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	12.742
. . . 10 P. M.	8.522
. . . of both,	10.532
Rain in Inches,	1.474
Evaporation in ditto,	1.104
Fair days 18; rainy days 13,	51
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	11
. . from E. of meridian, including S.	20

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Greatest heat, 8th	51.500
Greatest cold, 3d,	29.000
Highest 10 A. M. 15th,	48.500
Lowest ditto, 28th,	37.000
Highest 10 P. M. 14th,	45.500
Lowest ditto, 4th,	34.500

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. 5th,	30.350
Lowest ditto, 30th,	28.555
Highest 10 P. M. 5th,	30.345
Lowest ditto, 30th,	28.750

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. 2d,	28.000
Lowest ditto, 28th,	3.000
Highest 10 P. M. 1st,	18.000
Lowest ditto, 23d,	1.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, 30th,	0.475
Least ditto, 10th,	0.017
Greatest mean daily evap. 1st to 5th,	0.046
Least ditto, 16th to 21st,	0.022

General character of the period: dry and cold, the month concluding with stormy weather.

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METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Calton-hill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

	Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.		Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Oct. 16	M. 45	29.987	M. 43	E.	Mild, dull, rain even.	Oct. 24	M. 42	29.805	M. 44	S.	Mild and very misty.
	E. 46	.995	E. 45				E. 45	.778	E. 45		
17	M. 39	.970	M. 42	Cble.	Mild, slight showers.	25	M. 42	.544	M. 45	S.	A fine day, rather dull.
	E. 40	.894	E. 42				E. 45	.380	E. 44		
18	M. 42	.936	M. 42	E.	Rain morn. frost, dull.	26	M. 44	.355	M. 45	S.	Fair, but dull.
	E. 42	.885	E. 44				E. 39	.390	E. 43		
19	M. 41	.956	M. 42	Calm.	Mild, dull, calm.	27	M. 40	.165	M. 41	S. W.	Frost, morn. showers aft.
	E. 41	.921	E. 44				E. 41	28.895	E. 42		
20	M. 42	.990	M. 43	Calm.	Dull foren. clear aftern.	28	M. 54	.966	M. 58	S. W.	Fros. m. sno. for. fair aft.
	E. 40	.990	E. 42				E. 56	.966	E. 59		
21	M. 40	.718	M. 42	Cble.	Mild foren. cold aftern.	29	M. 55	.987	M. 57	W.	Frosty, clear, and cold.
	E. 43	.558	E. 45				E. 55	.995	E. 55		
22	M. 44	.596	M. 44	Calm.	Very mild, frost morn.	30	M. 42	.466	M. 42	S. W.	Heavy shwrs wind high.
	E. 42	.794	E. 46				E. 58	.652	E. 41		
23	M. 41	.889	M. 43	Calm.	Very misty day.	31	M. 58	.955	M. 40	S. W.	Very stormy, high winds.
	E. 41	.851	E. 44				E. 55	29.214	E. 39		

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

It is painful to be under the necessity of stating, that the harvest in this part of the island has not yet terminated; and to have to add, that letters from almost every part of Britain, which we have recently received, do not contain so favourable a statement regarding the crops as we expressed in last Number. We do not say this for the purpose of exciting any alarm of scarcity or dearth, but merely, as far as in our power, to put the public on their guard against the exaggerated accounts which have been industriously propagated, of a most abundant crop. Such assertions, though perhaps well intended, must be most pernicious in their consequences, by leading to a disregard of economy among the rich, and to disappointment and irritation in the minds of the poor. It is certainly better to look steadily at the evil, and to lighten its pressure, by voluntarily adopting, at an early period, those measures recommended by a prudent foresight, which necessity may afterwards enforce with tenfold severity. Happily, however, there is not the least reason for apprehending any real want of the means of subsistence for another year, of which, owing to the lateness of the harvest, a month at least may be considered as already elapsed, should harvest come at the usual time next year. Potatoes, too, are every where a plentiful crop, of excellent quality, and saved without injury. Besides, if we rightly understand the act of 1815, which seems to require that the prices from 15th August to the 15th November are to be formed into an aggregate, and not the prices for the six weeks immediately preceding the 15th November, as some appear to have taken for granted, there is little reason to expect that the ports will be shut this month, except to beans and peas, which were already excluded by the averages taken in August, and perhaps rye; though it is no doubt true, that little relief can be expected from importation during winter. The words of the act are, "If it shall hereafter, at any time after the importation of foreign corn, meal, or flour, shall be permitted under the provisions of this act, appear that the average prices of the different sorts of British corn respectively, in the six weeks immediately *succeeding* (not *preceding*) the 15th February, the 15th May, the 15th August, and the 15th November, in each year, shall have fallen below the prices at which foreign corn, meal, or flour, may be under the provisions of this act, allowed to be imported for home consumption, no such foreign corn, &c. shall be allowed to be imported," &c.—Cattle and sheep have advanced about 20 per cent. at the late great markets, above the prices of last year, and in some instances considerably more; but at All Hallow Fair, now holding here, the prices given at Falkirk about a month ago can hardly be obtained. The butcher market begins to rise, but the retail price is very little higher than at the date of our last.

13th November.

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CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817.	Wheat. Boll	Wheat. Prices	Wheat. Av. pr	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Quar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck
		s. s.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.
Oct. 22	451	29 52	41 10	26 33	24 30	24 30 0	12	8
29	425	29 51	42 8	26 33	24 30	25 30 0	12	8
Nov. 5	596	23 51	43 0	28 35	20 30	25 30 0	12	8
12	596	23 51	42 3	26 34	20 28	26 30 0	13	8

1817.	Oatmeal. Boll	Oatmeal. Peck.	Bn. & Pmeal Bolls.	Bn. & Pmeal Peck.
		s. d.		s. d.
Oct. 21	484	1 9	32	1 3
28	368	1 9	67	1 3
Nov. 4	416	1 10	59	1 4
11	—	1 10	—	1 4

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	Wheat. For. red.	Wheat. Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Oats. Scots.	Oats. Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Barley. Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stir. Mea.	Oatmeal 140 lbs.	Flour. 280 lbs.
	s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 22	44	48 32	58 — —	20 30	24 30	28 30	32 36	30 34	26 30	26 28	70 75
29	44	48 32	58 — —	20 28	24 28	28 30	32 36	30 34	26 30	25 27	70 75
Nov. 5	44	48 32	42 — —	20 28	24 28	28 30	34 44	30 38	26 30	25 27	70 75
12	48	54 35	44 — —	20 29	24 30	28 31	34 44	30 38	26 30	25 28	70 75

Haddington.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Wheat. Prices.	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 24	688	25 48 0	39 7	22 34	20 30 0	21 27	21 27
31	790	22 50 0	41 4	26 36	20 29 0	25 29	25 29
Nov. 7	892	24 48 0	40 2	24 35	20 30 0	27 36	27 36
14	778	21 48 0	39 0	27 36	19 29 6	26 32	26 32

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Oatmeal. Per Pek.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 20	25 0 26 6	1 9
27	21 0 26 3	1 9
Nov. 3	24 0 26 6	1 9
10	24 0 26 6	1 9

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pol.	Oats. Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Beans. Tick.	Pease. Boiling.	Pease. Grey.	Flour, 280lb. Fine.	Flour, 280lb. 2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
Oct. 20	47 94	30 36	24 54	12 32	32 36	40 50	34 43	45 60	37 42	75 80	55 70	14
27	54 96	30 36	24 55	14 35	33 36	40 50	34 43	44 58	36 44	75 80	55 70	14
Nov. 3	54 96	30 40	24 55	15 34	33 36	40 50	34 45	44 58	40 45	75 80	55 70	14
10	50 94	30 40	24 56	15 32	30 35	40 50	35 46	44 58	44 47	75 80	55 70	14

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb.	Flour. Irish.	Flour. Amer. 196 lb.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Oatmeal. Scots.	Oatmeal. Irish.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 14	6 6	13 0	2 6 4 6	4 0 6 0	40 45	45 58	48 54	60 65	00 00	38 53	34 38	30 34	28 32
21	6 6	12 9	2 6 4 6	4 0 6 0	36 38	40 58	48 54	60 65	00 00	38 53	34 38	30 34	28 32
28	6 6	13 0	2 6 4 0	4 6 6 6	00 00	45 58	48 54	——	00 00	52 54	34 38	30 34	28 32
Nov. 4	7 6	14 0	2 10 4 9	4 9 7 0	36 38	40 62	56 66	64 68	00 00	42 58	34 38	30 34	28 32

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatm. 140lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 11	78 4	44 10	42 5	27 11	47 10	42 5	34 6
18	78 9	46 4	42 3	27 11	46 8	43 0	35 10
25	77 3	45 6	41 5	27 0	45 9	45 2	35 1
Nov. 1	77 10	45 6	42 3	27 3	47 9	47 6	33 2

Maritime Districts.

Dts.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
Oct.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
11	78 4	43 1	41 10	25 8	46 4	41 1
18	80 4	45 11	41 9	00 0	45 6	38 4
25	78 7	44 5	40 7	25 2	42 9	43 2
Nov. 1	79 2	43 7	41 5	25 1	47 2	43 4

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th Oct.

Wheat, 68s. 4d.—Rye, 58s. 3d.—Barley, 40s. 4d.—Oats, 32s. 7d.—Beans, 52s. 7d.—Pease, 51s. 5d.—Oatmeal, 27s. 11d.—Bear or Big, 34s. 11d.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COLONIAL PRODUCE.—*Sugars.*—Since last report the market has been heavy, and a small reduction in most descriptions has been submitted to. The sale of refined goods has been rather considerable, at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. Foreign remains without alteration. *Coffee.*—The demand for coffee has increased considerably last week, and parcels go off freely at an advance of 1s. to 2s., and holders are confidently looking for a farther improvement, both in the demand and prices. *Cotton.*—The business done is trivial. A few Pernams were sold last week at 2s. 2d.; Maranhams, 2s. 1d.; Rios, 23½d.; Good fair D. T. Bengals, offered at 12½d without facilitating sales. *Rum.*—There have been great speculations in this article, owing to a report that Government would immediately require a large quantity; prices have consequently risen 2d. to 3d. per gallon. *Indigo.*—The sale at the India House commenced on the 14th, and closed on the 23d ult. The fine qualities sold 6d., the good 9d. to 1s., the middling 1s. 3d., the ordinary 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per lb. higher than last sale. *Spices.*—Pimento heavy; good quality about 9d. Ginger, Cinnamon, Mace, Nutmegs, and Cloves, without alteration either on demand or prices. *Tobacco.*—The purchasers, anticipating extensive arrivals, have declined buying till they see the extent of the import. *Oil.*—Whale oil in Holland is quoted about L.42 to L. 43, free on board in London. Every description of oil is quoted L. 2 to L. 3 per ton lower, except Sperm. Some small sales of Gallipoli at L. 120.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—The prices of tallow have advanced considerably. Hemp has risen L. 1 to L. 2 per ton, and considerable business has been done at the improvement. The request for flax has also been extensive, at advancing prices. *Brandy and Geneva.*—Brandy is uncommonly high; the letters from France state a farther advance at Bourdeaux, the vintage this year having been nearly destroyed. Geneva in Holland also reported to be greatly advanced, which has had a corresponding effect in this country.

British Manufactures.—Wool has advanced 50 per cent. within the last few weeks, owing to the great demand for woollen goods. In the iron trade the increasing demand has produced within the last six months an advance of L.4 per ton on that article. The cotton manufacturers are generally in full employ. Of the raw article, there has been a great failure in America; but 20,000 bags have lately been imported into Liverpool, chiefly from the East and West Indies. The foreign demand for our manufactured goods appears to have been great, by the accounts from the most opposite quarters. In the United States they were selling largely, and to a good profit; and at the Leipsic fair, though they sold cheap, yet the advantage was gained in point of quantity; for, as the German writers with great *naiveté* admit, "the *prejudice* of the multitude is always very much in their favour."—Nov. 8.

Course of Exchange, Nov. 7.—Amsterdam, 37 : 6. B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 6. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Rotterdam, 11 : 11 : 2 U. Antwerp, 11 : 11. Hamburgh, 34 : 9 : 2½ U. Altona, 34 : 10 : 2½ U. Paris, 3 days sight, 24 : 40 U. Bourdeaux, 24 : 60. Frankfort on the Maine, 145 Ex. M. Madrid, 38¾ effective. Cadiz, 38⅛ effective. Gibraltar, 32. Leghorn, 49½. Naples, 42½. Lisbon, 58. Rio Janeiro, 62. Dublin, 8¼. per cent. Cork, 8½.

Prices of Gold and Silver, per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, L. 4, 0s. 6d. Foreign gold, in bars, L. 4, 0s. 6d. New dollars, L. 0, 5s. 2½d. Silver in bars, standard, L. 0, 5s. 3½d.

Premiums of Insurance.—The premiums at Lloyd's are considerably higher, on account of the season of the year; to or from Holland 30s. to 40s. per cent.; Hamburgh, Bremen, &c. 2gs.; Gottenburgh 3gs.; St Petersburgh, Riga, &c. 8 to 10gs.; Canada, &c. 8gs. with returns. The coasters are also higher; to Liverpool, Dublin, Belfast, &c. 30s.; Limerick 40s. to 50s.; all others are a shade advanced on account of the season.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds from October 15 to November 7, 1817.

	Oct. 15th.	Oct. 22d.	Oct. 29th.	Nov. 7th.
Bank stock,	280½	285	—	290½
3 per cent. reduced,	81⅛	81⅛	81½	82⅜
3 per cent. consols,	82⅛	82¼	82⅛	83¼
4 per cent. consols,	99½	98¾	98⅛	99
5 per cent. navy ann.	107¾	107⅞	107⅛	108½
Imperial 3 per cent. ann.	82¼	—	—	81
India stock,	245½	—	232	247
—— bonds,	112pr.	100pr.	100pr.	101pr.
Exchequer bills, 2½d.	21pr.	21pr.	21pr.	20pr.
—— 3d.	26 31pr.	22 29pr.	23 30pr.	21 28pr.
—— 3½d.	21 22pr.	18 19pr.	19pr.	19 21pr.
Consols for acc.	82¾	81⅛	82⅞	83⅜
American 3 per cent.	—	—	—	65
—— new loan, 6 p. cent.	—	—	—	106¾
French 5 per cents.	64fr. 70c.	64fr. 95c.	65fr. 5c.	64fr. 95c.

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PRICES CURRENT.—Nov. 8.

	Leith.	Glasgow.	Liverpool.	per
Sugar, *Musc.*				
B. P. Dry Brown, . . .	76 @ —	78 @ 81	72 @ 78	cwt.
Mid. good, and fine mid.	82 86	82 92	79 87	
Fine and very fine, . .	88 96	— —	89 92	
Refined, Double Loaves, . . .	155 165	— —	— —	
Powder ditto, ...	126 130	— —	— —	
Single ditto, ...	120 124	123 125	122 126	
Small Lumps, ...	115 118	118 120	124 128	
Large ditto, ...	112 114	116 —	112 120	
Crushed Lumps, ...	66 70	69 70	67 70	
Molasses, British, ...	39 —	37 38	40 —	
Coffee, *Jamaica*,				
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 93	87 93	82 88	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	93 106	94 105	89 100	
Dutch, Triage and very ord. .	— —	— —	— —	
Ord. good, and fine ord.	— —	— —	— —	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	— —	— —	— —	
St Domingo, ...	— —	90 93	85 91	
Pimento (in Bond), ...	8½ 9	9 9½	9 9½	lb.
Spirits, Jamaica Rum, 16 O. P.	3s 6d 3s 8d	3s 4 3s 6	3s 2 3s 4	gall.
Brandy, ...	7 6 7 9	— —	— —	
Geneva, ...	3 10 4 0	— —	— —	
Grain Whisky, ...	7 0 7 3	— —	— —	
Wines, Claret, 1st Growths, .	45 50	— —	— —	hhd.
Portugal Red, ...	38 45	— —	— —	pipe.
Spanish White, ...	30 46	— —	— —	butt.
Teneriffe, ...	30 35	— —	— —	pipe.
Madeira, ...	60 70	— —	— —	
Logwood, Jamaica, ...	£8 £8 10	£8 0 £8 10	£8 0 £8 10	ton.
Honduras, ...	8 9	8 10 —	8 15 9 5	
Campeachy, ...	9 10	9 0 10 0	9 10 9 15	
Fustic, Jamaica, ...	12 13	12 10 13 0	12 12 14 0	
Cuba, ...	17 —	— —	18 10 19 0	
Indigo, Caraccas fine, . . .	9s 6d 11s 6d	8s 6 9s 6	9s 0 11s 6	lb.
Timber, American Pine, . .	2 3 2 6	— —	2 3 2 4	foot.
Ditto Oak, ...	4 6 5 6	— —	— —	
Christiansand (duties paid),	2 4 2 5	— —	— —	
Honduras Mahogany, .	0 11 1 4	0 10 1 8	1 0 1 4	
St Domingo ditto, . .	— —	1 2 3 0	1 9 2 3	
Tar, American, ...	— —	— —	16 0 17 0	brl.
Archangel, ...	22 23	— —	22 0 23 0	
Pitch, Foreign, ...	14 —	— —	— —	cwt.
Tallow, Russia Yellow Candle,	73 75	75 77	71 —	
Home melted, ...	68 —	— —	— —	
Hemp, Riga Rhine, ...	£46 48	£43 £44	— —	ton.
Petersburgh Clean, . .	45 46	41 42	43 —	
Flax, Riga Thies. and Druj. Rak.	63 —	— —	— —	
Dutch, ...	50 120	— —	— —	
Irish, ...	52 53	— —	— —	
Mats, Archangel, ...	£6 0 £6 6	— —	— —	100
Bristles, Petersburgh Firsts,	16 10 £17	— —	— —	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl, . .	63s —	— —	— —	
Montreal ditto, ...	64s 66s	60s 62s	61 62	
Pot, ...	46s 47s	46s 47s	46s 0 47s 0	
Oil, Whale, ...	55s —	55 56	57 58	tun.
Cod, ...	55 (p. brl.) —	— —	Uncertain.	
Tobacco, Virginia fine, . . .	8 9	10½ 11	0 8 0 9	lb.
middling, .	7 8	9½ 10	0 5½ 0 6	
inferior, .	6½ 7	8 9	0 4½ 0 5	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia, . .	— —	1 8 1 10½	1 7 1 10½	
Sea Island, fine, . . .	— —	2 8 2 10	2 6 2 7	
good, . . .	— —	2 5 2 7	2 4 2 5	
middling, .	— —	2 3 2 5	1 11 2 3	
Demerara and Berbice, .	— —	2 0 2 3	1 10 2 2	
West India, ...	— —	1 10 2 0	1 9 1 10	
Pernambuco, ...	— —	2 2 2 3	2 2 2 2½	
Maranham, ...	— —	2 1 2 2	2 0 2 0½	

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Alphabetical List of English Bankruptcies, announced between 10th and 31st October, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Apedaile, G. North Shields, timber merchant
Ainis, J, Little Britain, fishmonger
Ansell, T. London, horse-dealer
Burman, T. Dewsbury, woollen manufacturer
Beerenbrock, C. London, merchant
Boswood, J. Brighton, tobacconist
Cooper, W. London, merchant
Crosby, R. Kentish Town, bookseller
Davies, J. Canterbury, linen-draper
Deam, J. Woolton, painter
Dodson, P. Bedminster, baker
Dodd, T. London and Liverpool, printseller
Edwards, T. Daresbury, druggist
Evans, R. Grimley, coal-dealer
Farish, W. Whitehaven, mariner
Forman, J. jun. Mountsorrel, hosier
Granville, A. Plymouth Dock, china and glass merchant
Gibbons, J. Cheltenham, ironmonger
Glascodine, J. Westbury-upon-Trym, carpenter
Hammond, H. London, glass-cutter
Harris, J. London, victualler
Haswell, B. Wellington, grocer
Hillier, H. London, victualler
Hester, J. London, brickmaker
Hobbs, E. Bankside, wrought-iron manufacturer
Iredale, W. B. Sheffield, mercer
Lloyd, R. Dolgelly, tanner
Massdy, S. Sheadle Moseley, dealer
Minoit, S. and O. Crease, London, merchants
Malsh, T. Bristol, cheese factor
Mallins, H. London, coffeehouse-keeper
Miller, J. and J. London, shoemakers
Ogsden, J. P. Leicester, hosier
Rew, G. Liverpool, linen-draper
Rourke, L. London, victualler
Robson, C. Bermondsey, shipwright
Ratcliffe, H. Thorolton, farmer
Roberts, D. St Columb Major, shopkeeper
Singer, E. Coseley, victualler
Stockholm, W. Bristol, baker
Smart, J. London, ironmonger
Smith, W. South Shields, sailmaker
Sweetman, J. B. London and Birmingham, grocer
Thomson, R. Chipping Sodbury, baker
Tuckett, C. J. London and Birmingham, grocer
Walker, C. W. Brighton, stationer
Williams, R. Dolgelly, skinner
Whittington, T. Trowbridge, carpenter
Wigner, J. Harwich, sailmaker
Yeoland, P. Plymouth, straw-hat manufacturer

Alphabetical List of Scotch Bankrupts, announced between October 10 and 31, 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Angus, W. Glasgow, vintner and horse-setter
Bowie, F. in Tardoure, Ayrshire
Reith, J. Edinburgh, merchant
Stevenson, H. tertius, Oban, merchant

DIVIDENDS.

Aberdein, Machattie, and Co. Aberdeen, merchants; by the trustees there, 18th November.
Brown, J. Alyth, merchant; by J. Duncan, jun. manufacturer there, 30th November
Dempster, R. Nairn, merchant; by J. Forsyth, writer in Forres, 2d December
Johson, D. sen. Dundee, merchant; by W. Bisset, merchant there, 22d November
Paton, G. Ayr, tobacconist; by J. Brown, writer there, 25th November.—Final
Phillips, J. Glasgow, upholsterer; by J. Imrsy, merchant there, 3d December
Sandeman and Co. and Sandeman, Halket, and Co. Glasgow, merchants; by W. Carrick, accountant there, 29th November.—Final
Sangster, W. Old Meldrum, wright; by A. Allan, advocate, Aberdeen, 1st December.—Final
Skirving, J. Musselburgh, corn-merchant; by D. Cleghorn, W. S. Edinburgh, 11th November
Thom, W. Glasgow, corn-merchant; by J. Cumming, writer there, 28th November
Thomson, D. Ayr, merchant; by W. Brown, sen. merchant there, 3d December

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

August 16. At Quebec, the lady of W. Scott, Esq. younger of Wool, a son.

Sept. 7. The lady of James Kinloch, Esq. Brunswick Square, London, a son.

— Mrs Wishart, Heriot Row, Edinburgh, a daughter.

October 1. At College, Glasgow, Mrs Meikleham, a daughter.

2. Mrs Ogilvy, 6, Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, a daughter.

4. At Clifton, the Marchioness of Ely, a son.

7. At his house, in Southampton Row, London, the lady of the Hon. Charles Law, a daughter.

— At Aberdeen, Mrs Burnett of Park, a daughter.

9. At Kelly, the lady of the Hon. Colonel Ramsay, a daughter.

10. At York Place, Edinburgh, Mrs Hunt of Pittencrieff, a son.

11. At Fermoy House, Ireland, the lady of Sir J. Anderson, Bart., a daughter.

— Elizabeth Rutherford, wife of John Maclaggan, wheel-wright, Aberfeldy, a very poor man, a boy and two girls. One of the girls died a few seconds after birth; the others, with the mother, are doing well.

12. At Sandgate, the lady of Captain William Hamilton, a son.

— At York, Mrs Milner of Newmonkton, a son.

15. At Munshes, Mrs Maxwell, a son.

16. The lady of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, K. C. B. of the Royal Horse Artillery, a son.

— In North Queen Street, Glasgow, Mrs Andrew Hamilton, a daughter.

— The lady of G. H. Jackson, Esq. of Glenmore, a son.

17. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Colonel Forbes, a daughter.

18. Mrs Russell, 95, George Street, Edinburgh, a son.

20. Mrs Grant, Duke Street, Edinburgh, a son.

— In Dublin Street, Edinburgh, the lady of Major Alston, a son.

21. At Ednam, Mrs Peter Robertson, a daughter.

— At Woodbine Cottage, Brixton Hill, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, a son.

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23. At Spottle, the lady of the Hon. and Rev. A. Turnour, a daughter.

— In Gayfield Place, Edinburgh, Mrs Nicholson, a daughter.

27. At Castlecraig, the Hon. Lady Gibson Carmichael of Skirling, a son.

28. In Marischal Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Alex. Forbes, a daughter.

29. At Ormiston Hall, the Countess of Hopetoun, a son.

30. Mrs Trotter, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, a daughter.

— Mrs Laing Meason of Lindertis, a daughter.

— At Parknook, Cumberland, Mrs Charles Parker, a daughter.

— At Edinburgh, the lady of Captain Bunworth, 88th regiment, a daughter.

— Mrs Dickson, No. 9, North St David Street, Edinburgh, a son.

Lately at Seaforth Lodge, Lewis, Mrs Forbes Mackenzie, a son.

At Hampton Court, London, the lady of Captain Walker, royal navy, a son.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 4. At Tirhoot, in Bengal, John Morison, Esq. M. D. of the Hon. the East India Company's service, to Miss Anne Sloane, second daughter of the late Major Sloane, also of the service of the Ess India Company.

22. At the house of Duncan Campbell, Esq. Patna, Bengal, Henry Middleton, Esq. of the Hon. Company's service, to Miss Mary Anne Ochterlony, daughter of Major-General Sir David Ochterlony, Bart. K. C. B.

July 19. At Edinburgh, by the Rev. Henry Garnock, Mr Thomas Pringle, to Margaret, daughter of the late Mr William Brown, farmer at Papple, East Lothian.

Sept. 3. In the Protestant church of St Pierre's, in the island of Guernsey, Thomas Williams, Esq. eldest son of Captain Edward Williams, royal navy, to Eliza Helen, eldest daughter of the late Major-General Andrew Hay of Montblairy.

15. At St Mary-la-Bonne Church, London, Mr C. F. Smart, to Miss Caroline Collis, daughter of F. W. Collis, Esq.

— At Annfield, near Stirling, Mr William Galbraith, writer, Stirling, to Miss Christian Littlejohn, daughter of Provost Littlejohn, Stirling.

— At Wigtown, John Black, Esq. writer, Wigtown, to Susan, youngest daughter of Dr Robert Couper there.

21. At the manse of Westray, Robert Pringle, Esq. of the Excise, Orkney, to Miss Eliza Oliphant, daughter of the Rev. Spence Oliphant, Largo.

29. William Brown, Esq. merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Jean Wilsone, daughter of Charles Wilsone, Esq. surgeon.

Oct. 8. At Tweedmouth Church, Lieut. James Wood, royal navy, to Jane, eldest daughter of Captain James Nesbitt of Spittal.

10. At Edinburgh, Mr William Tennant, of the Custom House there, to Marion, only daughter of the deceased Captain Robert Gairdner of the Hon. East India Company's artillery.

13. At Hawkhill House, Thomas Kay, Esq. merchant, Rotterdam, to Miss Henrietta Sophia Cassels, youngest daughter of the late Andrew Cassels, Esq. of Leith.

14. At Edinburgh, Robert Cadell, Esq. bookseller, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Archibald Constable, Esq.

— At Linlathen, Charles Stirling, Esq. merchant in Glasgow, to Christian, daughter of the late David Erskine, Esq. clerk to the signet.

— At Ealibus, in Islay, Duncan Mackenzie, Esq. surgeon of the Hon. East India Company's service, to Ann, youngest daughter of Samuel Crawford, Esq.

16. By special licence, at the lady's house, in Montagu Square, London, Rear-Admiral Sir Philip Durham, K. C. B. to Miss Henderson, daughter of Sir John Henderson, Bart.

— By special licence, at the house of the Countess Dowager Delawar, at Bath, Lieutenant-Colonel D'Arcy, of the royal artillery, to Lady Catherine Georgina West, daughter of the late and sister of the present Earl Delawar.

— At Linlithgow, Mr Andrew Simson, writer, Glasgow, to Clara, daughter of Thomas Spens, Esq. Collector of Excise, Linlithgow.

— At London, Edmond Antrobus, Esq. nephew of Sir Edmond Antrobus, Bart. to Anne, only daughter of the Hon. Hugh Lindsay, of Plaistow Lodge, and niece to the Earl of Balcarras and Countess of Hardwicke.

16. At Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Alexander Renny, Esq. of Riga, to Harriet Tempest, youngest daughter of Robert Blakiston, Esq. of Sunderland.

— At Carlisle, Charles Tawse, Esq. writer to the signet, to Sarah Harriet, only daughter of the late John Connell, Esq. of Carlisle.

17. At Albany Street, North Leith John Robertson, Esq. merchant, Leith, Margaretta Elizabeth, daughter of J. J. Ltn. Moller, Esq. Hamburgh.

— At Clyde Bank, near Dumbarton, Mr John Pollock, insurance broker, Edinburgh, to Margaret, only daughter of the late Mr James Symington, bookseller, Edinburgh.

18. At St Anne's Church, Dublin, Captain the Hon. James Ashley Maude, R. N. to Miss Albina Brodrick, second daughter of his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel.

20. At Thurso, W. H. Torrence, Esq. to Eliza, eldest daughter of William Nairn,

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Esq. captain in his Majesty's 40th regiment of foot.

21. At London, the Right Hon. Lord Selsey, to the Hon. Miss Irby, youngest daughter of Lord Boston.

— At Netherplace, Glasgow, Patrick Reid, Esq. of Hazleden, to Agnes, eldest daughter of Robert Hay, Esq. Netherplace.

27. At Stoney Hill House, Thomas Martin, Esq. writer, Edinburgh, to Jane, only daughter of Francis Anderson, Esq. writer to the signet.

— At the Manse of Lanark, Alexander Gillespie, Esq. of Sunnyside, to Miss Jane Menzies, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Menzies, minister of Lanark.

— At Paisley, William Lowndes, Esq. of Arthurlie, to Janet, second daughter of Adam Keir, Esq. banker.

28 At Edinburgh, James Ivory, Esq. advocate, to Ann, second daughter of Alexander Lawrie, Esq.

30. At London, the Rev. Percival Spearman Wilkinson, son of Thomas Wilkinson, Esq. of Witton Castle, Durham, to Sophia Mary, only daughter of Captain Anstruther, nephew of Sir Robert Anstruther, Bart. of Balcaskie, formerly of the 77th and 62d regiments.

Lately—At Chelsea, John Sim, M. D. of London, to Anne Eliza, eldest daughter of James Clark, M. D. F. R. and F. A. S. of Dominica.

DEATHS.

February 10. At Bombay, in Colonel Smith's camp, Major Alexander Campbell, of the 9th regiment, Bombay native infantry, (son to Mr John Campbell, Surveyor of the Customs at the port of Perth.) He was unhappily killed by his horse falling with him, when on a party enjoying the sports of the field, of which he was passionately fond.

March 21. In camp at Ieegaum Tokely Berar, Madras, in the prime of life, Captain Angus M'Lachlan, of his Majesty's 2d battalion 1st (or Royal Scots) regiment of foot, sincerely regretted by his brother officers.

April 16. At Amdangah Factory, Jessore, India, Mr William Gibson, indigo planter, son of the late Mr Peter Gibson, writer in Ayr.

July 7. At Montserrat, in his 80th year, Dr Alexander Hood, Speaker of the Assembly, and 44 years a Member of that House, a gentleman of great reputation in his profession, and of much respectability in society.

19. At Roseau, in Dominica, Mrs Margaret Thomson, daughter of the late Secretary Thomson, of the Excise for Scotland, and widow of James Bruce, Esq. late Governor of Dominica.

August 10. At St John's, Antigua, after four days illness, of the yellow fever, Ebenezer Pattison, in the 22d year of his age.

14. Of a fever, at Burleigh Castle estate, island of Tobago, Mr James Hutcheson, son of John Hutcheson, Esq. of Fulbar, Renfrew.

18. At Charlestown, South Carolina, after three days illness, Mr Alexander Caw, late merchant in Leith.

21. On his passage home from Trinidad, Mr George Gardner, fourth son of Mr Harrie Gardner, merchant, Edinburgh.

31. In Halifax, Nova Scotia, James, eldest son of Mr James Ferguson, merchant in Aberdeen, in the 26th year of his age, much and justly regretted.

September 14. At Inverossly, in Sutherlandshire, Mr John Reed, formerly of Prendwick, Northumberland, aged 40.

21. At St Petersburgh, Duke Jules de Polignac, well known for the distinguished favours with which he was honoured by Louis XVI.

25. At Muirbank, Miss Buchanan.

— At Brechin, in the 21st year of her age, Helen Young, third daughter of the late John Sivewright, Esq.

26. At Craigthornhill, parish of Glassford, the Rev. James Russell of Townhead, Mearns. For several years he was minister of the Associate congregation at Torphichen, in the county of Linlithgow.

— At Stonehaven, James Campbell, mail contractor.

October 2. At Broughty Ferry, Mrs Margaret Bisset, spouse of the Rev. William Maul of Monikie.

— At Hermitage Place, Leith Links, in the 85th year of her age, Mrs Christian Kellie, relict of Bailie William Robertson, merchant, Leith.

3. In Marischal Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Bannerman, aged 64.

4. At Dundee, James Steele, Esq. late from India, Surgeon of his Majesty's 52d regiment of foot.

6. At Nantes, in France, after a long and distressing illness, Charles Byron, aged two years, the only son of James Wedderburn and the Hon. Lady Frances Wedderburn Webster.

7. At Kirkaldy, Mr William Whyte, in the 74th year of his age.

9. In the 11th year of his age, George, the sixth son of Mr Samuel Philbrick of Great Dunmow, Essex. The cause of his premature death originated at school, from a dangerous practice, to prevent which, the strictest orders should be given, and most rigorously enforced: we allude to little boys endeavouring to carry on their backs those larger than themselves. In doing so, this youth received an injury in the hip, which brought on a wound, with which he suffered for many months, and, notwithstanding every medical assistance was resorted to, in the end it proved mortal. This may be received as an useful caution by schoolmasters and parents, and it is hoped will be properly attended to.

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10. At Glasgow, Andrew Macnair, Esq. in the 74th year of his age.

— At Cookstown, Ireland, of a typhus fever, Mrs Glasgow, relict of the Rev. John Glasgow, late of Colerain.

11. At Dundee, Miss Thomson, Miln's Buildings; who, for many years, conducted a seminary for the education of young ladies in Dundee, with great honour to herself, and usefulness to the public. Miss Thomson laboured for a considerable time under her indisposition, but endured her distress with truly Christian fortitude, and bowed to the will of Heaven with the most pious resignation. She has bequeathed the following donations for charitable purposes:—To the Orphan Institution, Dundee, L. 19, 19s.; the Kirk Session of Dundee, L. 19, 19s.; the Female Society, Dundee, L. 10; the Society for the Indigent Sick, Dundee, L. 10; the Dundee Infirmary, L. 10; the Lunatic Asylum, Dundee, L. 10.—Total, L. 79, 18s.

12. William Harkness, Esq. of Dublin, an eminent merchant, and a Director of the Bank of Ireland.

14. At the Manse of Anstruther West, after being delivered of a son on the 6th, Mary Dickson, aged 31, wife of the Rev. Andrew Carstairs, much and justly regretted.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Isabella Purdie, spouse of Mr John Thiorais of Moscow.

— At Colinton, Mrs Jamieson, wife of Mr Thomas Jamieson, farmer there.

— At Tayfield House, John Berry, Esq. of Tayfield, in the 93d year of his age.

15. At his seat at Melchburne, Bedfordshire, the Right Hon. St Andrew Lord St John, Baron St John of Bletsoe. His Lordship was the 13th Peer in succession of that name, Baron of Bletsoe and Baronet. The family were summoned to Parliament in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Lord St John represented the county of Bedford in Parliament for 25 years, previously to the death of his brother, whom he succeeded in the Peerage. He has left a widow, daughter of Sir C. Rous Broughton, Bart. pregnant, and a son, who succeeds him in his title and estates, of five years of age.

— At Kelso, Mrs Elizabeth Rutherford, late of Birstelees, Roxburghshire.

— At Helensburgh, Captain James Booth, R. N. after an illness of about three weeks.

16. At Montrose, Mr George Smith, in the 81st year of his age.

— Suddenly at his house in Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London, John Barclay, Esq. surgeon, in the 58th year of his age.

— At Edinburgh, Miss Mary Harvey, daughter of Mr W. G. Harvey, Battle, Sussex.

17. The Rev. Robert Stirling, minister of the parish of Dunblane.

— At his house, Amelia Place, Brompton, the Right Hon. John Philpot Curran. Mr Curran was one of that galaxy of talent which arose almost from obscurity, and illumined the Sister Island within these last fifty years. With a mind richly cultivated, and a flow of wit rarely equalled, Mr Curran remained for some time after he was called to the bar in comparative retirement; but his was not a spirit destined to be inactive, and his genius towering above that of most of his contemporaries, burst its way through these great obstacles to merit—indigence and want of interest. The celebrity which his first forensic displays procured him, soon removed the one, and supplied the other. This reward of his early efforts stimulated him to further; and, in the prime of his life, his unrivalled eloquence placed him in that situation at the bar which is often considered the ample reward of nearly a whole life of exertion. As a senator, Mr Curran was more distinguished for sallies of wit and humour than for genuine eloquence. He possessed more the art of annoying his Parliamentary opponents by sarcastic and pointed retorts, than of meeting them by argument or declamation. At the bar, however, his talents had their full scope. This was the sphere where he shone unrivalled, where he seemed to be endued with more than human powers. It was truly said of him, that no advocate ever made the cause of his client so much his own. He entered into it with as much zeal as if he was pleading for his own life; and to his credit it must be owned, that his rare combination of talent and of zeal was in most instances successful. In 1806, Mr C. was appointed Master of the Rolls in Ireland, a situation in which he particularly distinguished himself for clear and correct decisions. He held that office until 1815, when he was succeeded by Sir William M'Mahon.

18. At Belfast, Serjeant Alexander Cameron, Piper-Major of the 92d, or Cameronian Highlanders. His merits as a performer on the Highland bagpipe were generally acknowledged, but they could not be duly appreciated but by those who felt the inspiring effects of his animating strains on the toilsome march, or amid the thunder of the battle. He served in the Peninsula during the whole of the late war, and by his zeal attracted the notice of several officers of high rank. Lieutenant-General Sir William Erskine, in a letter to a friend after the affair of Rio del Molinas, says, "The first intimation the enemy had of our approach, was the piper of the 92d playing '*Hey Johnny Cope are ye wauking yet.*' To this favourite air from Cameron's

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pipe, the streets of Brussels re-echoed on the night of the 15th of June, when the regiment assembled to march out to the field of Waterloo. Once, and once only, was this brave soldier missed in his accustomed place in the front of the battle, and the occasion strongly marks the powerful influence which the love of fame had upon his mind. In a London newspaper, a very flattering eulogium had appeared on the conduct of a piper of another regiment. Our gallant musician, conscious that no one could surpass him in zeal or intrepidity, felt hurt that *he* should not also have gained this flattering distinction, and declared, that "if *his* name did not appear in the newspapers, he would no more play in the battle field!" Accordingly, in the next affair with the enemy, Cameron's pipe was mute! Some insinuations against the piper reached his ear. The bare idea of his motives being misunderstood was torture to poor Cameron, and overcame at once the sullen resolution he had formed of remaining silent in the rear. He rushed forward; and, not content with gaining his place at the head of the regiment, advanced with a party of skirmishers, and, placing himself on a height in full view of the enemy, continued to animate the party by playing favourite national airs. For the last two years his health sensibly declined. He was afflicted with an asthma, which the blowing of the bagpipe tended to aggravate. Notwithstanding, he could not be induced to resign his favourite employment, but continued till very lately to play "The Gathering" for the daily assembling of the regiment. His remains were attended to the grave by several officers, all the non-commissioned officers, and the grenadier company, to which the deceased belonged.

18. At her house, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Anne Johnson, late of Canonmills.

19. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Rose, widow of the Rev. John Rose, late minister of Udny.

— At Glasgow, Miss Agnes Crosse, daughter of the late Robert Crosse, Esq. merchant in Glasgow.

20. At Portobello, James Stormonth, Esq. of Lednathy, writer in Edinburgh, in the 86th year of his age.

— In Frederick Street, Miss Crockat, daughter of Archibald Crockat, Esq. late of New York.

— At his house in Chester Place, Pimlico, Mr Raymond, the intelligent and active Manager of Drury-Lane. He was seized with an apoplectic fit early in the morning, and lay in a state of insensibility (motionless and speechless) till the moment of his death, which was gradual and without pain. Mr R. was a native of Aberdeenshire; and it is to his credit that he wrought his way up to the professional eminence which he enjoyed by his own unassisted efforts.

21. At Cowhill, Alexander Key, Esq. wine merchant, London.

22. At Bonington House, Lanarkshire, Lady Ross Baillie of Lamington.

23. At Kelso, in her 90th year, Mrs Agnes Ballantyne, relict of the late Mr David Ballantyne.

24. At Woolwich, Colonel Philip Riou, only surviving brother of the late Captain Edward Riou, of the navy.

— At Glasgow, Mr Humphry Barbour, merchant, aged 74.

25. At Mrs John Weir's, North Hanover Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Euphemia Elphinston, relict of the Rev. Duncan M'Lea, minister of Inverhulin.

— In the 25th year of her age, Frances Philadelphia, daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Hotham, of the Coldstream guards, and sister of the present Lord Hotham.

26. At Edinburgh, Alexander Stenhouse, Esq. M. D. much and justly regretted.

27. At Frogmore, near Windsor, after an illness of five years, Esther Jane, relict of the late Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Mrs S. was the youngest daughter of the late Newton Ogle, D. D. of Kirkley, in the county of Northumberland, Dean of Winchester, &c.

Lately—At Tunis, in the prime of life, the celebrated archæologist, Count Camillo Borgia.

At her house, Graham Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Cleghorn, widow of Mr Thomas Cleghorn, farmer, Turnhouse.

At Dalgetty Manse, Miss Margaret Scott, second daughter of the Rev. John Scott, minister of Dalgetty.

In Hart Street, Covent Garden, Mrs Emett, aged 80, a native of Plymouth. Her first husband, George Sutherland, served King George II. at the battle of Minden. Her two husbands and children have served their country upwards of a hundred years, chiefly in the British navy.

At Bow-wood, the seat of the Marquis of Lansdown, Mr Broad, for nearly forty years steward in the Marquis's family. Being out in the park on the day preceding, with a party of ladies and gentlemen, he found a dead adder, which he took up in his hands, and opened its mouth, to shew where the poison of the creature lay; in doing this, however, the subtile matter communicated to a cut in one of his fingers. On the next morning, Mr Broad was found dead in his bed, with every indication of his having died from the effects of the poison, the arm being much inflamed.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

BEING A NEW SERIES OF

The Scots Magazine.

DECEMBER 1817.

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HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days. Dec.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.	Days. Jan.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.
Su. 21	12	52			M. 5			1	9
M. 22	1	13	1	33	Tu. 6	1	38	2	4
Tu. 23	1	51	2	10	W. 7	2	30	2	55
W. 24	2	29	2	48	Th. 8	3	18	3	38
Th. 25	3	5	3	24	Fr. 9	3	59	4	20
Fr. 26	3	43	4	3	Sa. 10	4	39	4	58
Sa. 27	4	22	4	43	Su. 11	5	16	5	35
Su. 28	5	4	5	25	M. 12	5	53	6	12
M. 29	5	49	6	10	Tu. 13	6	31	6	51
Tu. 30	6	35	7	3	W. 14	7	12	7	34
W. 31	7	31	8	1	Th. 15	8	4	8	35
Jan. 1818.					Fr. 16	9	8	9	48
Th. 1	8	35	9	10	Sa. 17	10	27	11	4
Fr. 2	9	46	10	22	Su. 18	11	38		
Sa. 3	10	59	11	35	M. 19	0	6	0	33
Su. 4	12	8	12	40	Tu. 20	0	57	1	17

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Dec. 23. 45 *m.* past 4 after.
Last Quarter, —— 31. 17 —— 7 after.
New Moon, Jan. 6. 29 —— 11 even.
First Quarter, —— 14. 40 —— 6 morn.

TERMS, &c.

Dec. 22. Shortest Day.
25. Christmas Day.
Jan. 1. New Year's Day.
9. River Tweed opens.
13. Old New Year's Day.
18. Queen's Birth-day kept.

In presenting the last Number of this New Series for the present year, the Proprietors and Editors have gratefully to acknowledge the very flattering reception the Work, in its improved and extended form, has experienced, not only from the supporters of the Scots Magazine, but from the Public at large.— As it is desirable to begin the Second Volume with the January Number, the five now published are meant to form the First Volume of the New Series, and an Index is given with the present Number accordingly. Hereafter, every Volume will contain Six Numbers, the last of them to be accompanied with a similar Index. The Title-pages have been made to suit the wishes of those who may choose to bind up the New Series either as a separate Work, or as a continuation of the Scots Magazine.

*** The Correspondents of the EDINBURGH MAGAZINE AND LITERARY MISCELLANY are respectfully requested to transmit their Communications for the Editors to ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and COMPANY, Edinburgh, or LONGMAN and COMPANY, London, to whom also orders for the Work should be particularly addressed.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

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DECEMBER 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

REMARKS ON MR WEST'S PICTURE OF DEATH ON THE PALE HORSE, AND ON THE DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE WHICH ACCOMPANIES IT.

Mr West's name stands deservedly high in the annals of art in this country—too high for him to condescend to be his own puffer, even at second-hand. He comes forward, in the present instance, as the painter and the showman of the piece; as the candidate for public applause, and the judge who awards himself the prize; as the idol on the altar, and the priest who offers up the grateful incense of praise. He places himself, as it were, before his own performance, with a *Catalogue Raisonné* in his hand, and, before the spectator can form a judgment on the work itself, dazzles him with an account of the prodigies of art which are there conceived and executed. This is not quite fair. It is a proceeding which, though "it sets on a quantity of barren spectators to *admire*, cannot but make the judicious grieve." Mr West, by thus taking to himself unlimited credit for "the high endeavour and the glad success," by proclaiming aloud that he has aimed at the highest sublimities of his art, and as loudly, with a singular mixture of pomposity and phlegm, that he has fully accomplished all that his most ardent hopes had anticipated,—must, we should think, obtain a great deal of spurious, catchpenny reputation, and lose a great deal of that genuine tribute of approbation to which he is otherwise entitled, by turning the attention of the well-informed and unprejudiced part of the community from his real and undoubted merits to his groundless and exaggerated pretensions. *Self-praise*, it is said, *is no praise:* but it is worse than this. It either shows great weakness and vanity for an artist to talk (or to get another to talk) of his own work, which was produced yesterday, and may be forgotten to-morrow, with the same lofty, emphatic, solemn tone, as if it were already stamped with the voice of ages, and had become sacred to the imagination of the beholder; or else the doing so is a deliberate attempt to encroach on the right of private judgment and public opinion, which those who are not its dupes will resent accordingly, and endeavour to repel by acts of precaution or hostility. An unsuccessful effort to extort admiration is sure to involve its own punishment.

We should not have made these remarks, if the "Description of the Picture of Death" had been a solitary instance of the kind; but it is one of a series of descriptions of the same sort—it is a part of a system of self-adulation which cannot be too much discouraged. Perhaps Mr West may say, that the Descriptive Catalogue is not *his;* that he has nothing to do with its composition or absurdities. But it must be written with his consent and approbation; and this is a sanction which it ought not to receive. We presume the artist would have it in his option to put a negative on any undue censure or flagrant abuse of his picture; it must be equally in his power, and it is equally incumbent upon him, to reject, with dignified modesty, the gross and palpable flatteries which it contains, direct or by implication.

The first notice we received of this picture was by an advertisement in a

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morning paper, (the editor of which is not apt to hazard extravagant opinions without a prompter,) purporting, that, "in consequence of the President's having devoted a year and a half to its completion, and of its having for its subject the *Terrible Sublime*, it would place Great Britain in the same conspicuous relation to the rest of Europe in arts that the battle of Waterloo had done in arms!" We shall not stay to decide between the battle and the picture; but the writer follows up the same idea of the *Terrible Sublime* in the Catalogue, the first paragraph of which is conceived in the following terms:—

"The general effect proposed to be excited by this picture is the terrible sublime, and its various modifications, until lost in the opposite extremes of pity and horror, a sentiment which painting has so seldom attempted to awaken, that a particular description of the subject will probably be acceptable to the public."

"So shall my anticipation prevent your discovery." Mr West here, like Bayes in the Rehearsal, *insinuates the plot* very profoundly. He has, it seems, opened a new walk in art with its alternate ramifications into the opposite regions of horror and pity, and kindly takes the reader by the hand, to show him how triumphantly he has arrived at the end of his journey.

"In poetry," continues the writer, "the same effect is produced by a few abrupt and rapid gleams of description, touching, as it were, with fire, the features and edges of a general mass of awful obscurity; but in painting, such indistinctness would be a defect, and imply, that the artist wanted the power to pourtray the conceptions of his fancy. Mr West was of opinion that to delineate a physical form, which in its moral impression would approximate to that of the visionary Death of Milton, it was necessary to endow it, if possible, with the appearance of superhuman strength and energy. He has, therefore, exerted the utmost force and perspicuity of his pencil on the central figure." This is "spoken with authority, and not as the scribes." Poetry, according to the definition here introduced of it, resembles a candle-light picture, which gives merely the rim and outlines of things in a vivid and dazzling, but confused and imperfect manner. We cannot tell whether this account will be considered as satisfactory. But Mr West, or his commentator, should tread cautiously on this ground. He may otherwise commit himself, not only in a comparison with the epic poet, but with the inspired writer, who only uses *words*. It will hardly be contended, for instance, that the account of Death on the Pale Horse in the book of Revelations, never produced its due effect of *the terrible sublime*, till the deficiencies of the pen were supplied by the pencil. Neither do we see how the endowing a physical form with superhuman strength, has any necessary connection with the *moral impression of the visionary Death of Milton*. There seems to be here some radical mistake in Mr West's theory. The moral attributes of Death are powers and effects of an infinitely wide and general description, which no individual or physical form can possibly represent, but by courtesy of speech or by a distant analogy. The moral impression of Death is essentially visionary; its reality is in the mind's eye. Words are here the only things; and things, physical forms, the mere mockeries of the understanding. The less definite the conception, the less bodily, the more vast, unformed, and unsubstantial, the nearer does it approach to some resemblance of that omnipresent, lasting, universal, irresistible principle, which everywhere, and at some time or other, exerts its power over all things. Death is a mighty abstraction, like Night, or Space, or Time. He is an ugly customer, who will not be invited to supper, or to sit for his picture. He is with us and about us, but we do not see him. He stalks on before us, and we do not mind him; he follows us behind, and we do not look back at him. We do not see him making faces at us in our lifetime! we do not feel him tickling our bare ribs afterwards, nor look at him through the empty grating of our hollow eyes! Does Mr West really suppose that he has put the very image of Death upon his canvas; that he has taken the fear of him out of our hearts; that he has circumscribed his power with a pair of compasses; that he has measured the length of his arm with a two-foot rule; that he has suspended the stroke of his dart with a stroke of his pencil; that he has laid

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hands on the universal principle of destruction, and hemmed him in with lines and lineaments, and made a gazing-stock and a show of him, "under the patronage of the Prince Regent," (as that illustrious person has taken, and confined, and made a show of another *enemy of the human race*)—so that the work of decay and dissolution is no longer going on in nature; that all we have heard or felt of death is but a fable compared with this distinct, living, and warranted likeness of him? Oh no! There is no power in the pencil actually to embody an abstraction, to impound the imagination, to circumvent the powers of the soul, which hold communion with the universe. The painter cannot make the general particular, the infinite and imaginary defined and palpable, that which is only believed and dreaded, an object of sight.

As Mr West appears to have wrong notions of the powers of his art, so he seems not to put in practice all that it is capable of. The only way in which the painter of genius can represent the force of moral truth, is by translating it into an artificial language of his own,—by substituting hieroglyphics for words, and presenting the closest and most striking affinities his fancy and observation can suggest between the general idea and the visible illustration of it. Here we think Mr West has failed. The artist has represented Death riding over his prostrate victims in all the rage of impotent despair. He is in a great splutter, and seems making a last effort to frighten his foes by an explosion of red-hot thunder bolts, and a pompous display of his allegorical parapharnalia. He has not the calm, still, majestic form of Death, killing by a look,—withering by a touch. His presence does not make the still air cold. His flesh is not stony or cadaverous, but is crusted over with a yellow glutinous paste, as if it had been baked in a pye. Milton makes Death "grin horrible a ghastly smile," with an evident allusion to the common Death's head; but in the picture he seems grinning for a wager, with a full row of loose, rotten teeth; and his terrible form is covered with a long black drapery, which would cut a figure in an undertaker's shop, and which cuts a figure where it is (for it is finely painted), but which serves only as a disguise for the King of Terrors. We have no idea of such a swaggering and blustering Death as this of Mr West's. He has not invoked a ghastly spectre from the tomb, but has called up an old squalid ruffian from a night cellar, and crowned him "monarch of the universal world." The horse on which he rides is not "pale," but white. There is no gusto, no imagination in Mr West's colouring. As to his figure, the description gives an accurate idea of it enough. "His horse rushes forward with the universal wildness of a tempestuous element, breathing livid pestilence, and rearing and trampling with the vehemence of unbridled fury." The style of the figure corresponds to the style of the description. It is over-loaded and top-heavy. The chest of the animal is a great deal too long for the legs.

The painter has made amends for this splashing figure of the Pale Horse, by those of the White and Red Horse. They are like a couple of rocking-horses, and go as easy. Mr West's vicarious egotism obtrudes itself again offensively in speaking of the Rider on the White Horse. "As he is supposed," says the Catalogue, "to represent the Gospel, it was requisite that he should be invested with those exterior indications of purity, excellence, and dignity, which are associated in our minds with the name and offices of the Messiah. But it was not THE SAVIOUR healing and comforting the afflicted, or the meek and lowly JESUS, bearing with resignation the scorn and hatred of the scoffing multitude, that was to be represented;—it was the King of Kings going forth, conquering and to conquer. He is *therefore* painted with a solemn countenance, expressive of a mind filled with the thoughts of a great enterprise; and he advances onward in his sublime career with that serene Majesty," &c. Now this is surely an unwarrantable assumption of public opinion in a matter of taste. Christ is not represented in this picture as he was in Mr West's two former pictures; but in all three he gives you to understand that he has reflected the true countenance and divine character of the Messiah. *Multum abludit imago.* The Christs in each picture have a different character indeed, but they only present a variety of meanness and insipidity.

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But the unwary spectator, who looks at the catalogue to know what he is to think of the picture, and reads all these *therefores* of *sublimity, serenity, purity*, &c. considers them as so many infallible inferences and demonstrations of the painter's skill.

Mr West has been tolerably successful in the delineation of the neutral character of the Man on the Black Horse; but "the two wretched emaciated figures" of a man and woman before him, "absorbed in the feelings of their own particular misery," are not likely to excite any sympathy in the beholders. They exhibit the lowest stage of mental and physical imbecility, that could never by any possibility come to any good. In the domestic groupe in the foreground, "the painter has attempted to excite the strongest degree of pity which his subject admitted, and to contrast the surrounding objects with images of tenderness and beauty;" and it is here that he has principally failed. The Dying Mother appears to have been in her lifetime a plaster-cast from the antique, stained with a little purple and yellow, to imitate the life. The "Lovely Infant" that is falling from her breast, is a hideous little creature, with glazed eyes, and livid aspect, borrowed from the infant who is falling out of his mother's lap over the bridge, in Hogarth's Print of Gin-Lane. The Husband's features, who is placed in so pathetic an attitude, are cut out of the hardest wood, and of the deepest dye; and the surviving Daughter, who is stated "to be sensible only to the loss she has sustained by the death of so kind a parent," is neither better nor worse than the figures we meet with in the elegant frontispieces to history-books, or family stories, intended as Christmas presents to good little boys and girls. The foreshortening of the lower extremities, both of the Mother and Child, is wretchedly defective, either in drawing or colouring.

In describing "the anarchy of the combats of men with beasts," Mr West has attained that sort of excellence which always arises from a knowledge of the rules of composition. His lion, however, looks as if his face and velvet paws were covered with a calf's skin, or leather gloves pulled carefully over them. So little is the appearance of hair given! The youth in this group, whom Mr West celebrates for his muscular manly courage, has a fine rustic look of health and strength about him; but we think the other figure, with a scowling swarthy face, striking at an animal, is superior in force of character and expression. In the back figure of the man holding his hand to his head, (with no very dignified action,) the artist has well imitated the bad colouring, and stiff inanimate drawing of Poussin. The remaining figures are not of much importance, or are striking only from their defects. Mr West, however, omits no opportunity of discreetly sounding his own praise. "The story of this group," it is said, "would have been incomplete, had the lions *not* been shown conquerors to a certain extent, by the two wounded men," &c. As it is, it is perfect! Admirable critic! Again we are told, "The pyramidal form of this large division is *perfected* by a furious bull," &c. Nay, indeed, the form of the pyramid is even preserved in the title-page of the catalogue. The prettiest incident in the picture is the dove lamenting over its mate, just killed by the serpent. We do not deny Mr West the praise of invention. Upon the whole, we think this the best coloured and most picturesque of all Mr West's productions; and in all that relates to composition, and the introduction of the adjuncts of historical design, it shows, like his other works, the hand of a master. In the same room is the picture of Christ Rejected. Alas! how changed, and in how short a time! The colours are scarcely dry, and it already looks dingy, flat, and faded. W. H.

ON THE POLITICAL STATE OF ALGIERS, THE EFFECTS OF THE RECENT ENGLISH EXPEDITION, AND THE BEST LINE OF POLICY IN REGARD TO THE BARBARY STATES; WITH OBSERVATIONS BY AN ITALIAN GENTLEMAN, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CAPTIVITY IN THAT COUNTRY.

[The following article, written by a distinguished foreigner, will, we trust, be found equally interesting from its subject and execution. We have the satisfaction to state, that it was communicated to us by Professor Playfair, who, on his late tour on the Continent, received it from the author.]

In the state of universal suffering which Europe experiences from a want

of demand for the produce of its industry, and while the poor man every where offers his labour without finding employment or adequate wages, no event would be more desirable than one which should extend the empire of civilization, and afford to our manufactures, among a new people, markets which are no longer found in Europe. A formidable disorder has spread through the whole system of our political economy; it is no longer from a vain commercial rivalry, that civilized nations dispute the markets of the world; it is, that they may exist, and that famine may not sweep away all their artizans, all the workmen employed in those numerous establishments, which have perhaps been imprudently multiplied, but which could not now be suffered to fall without our perishing along with them. If we wish to avoid disasters which make us shudder, and of which we have already felt the approach, we must make haste to open new and extensive markets for the produce of our manufacturing industry; we must find nations accustomed to our arts, to our enjoyments, to all the pleasures and wants of civilization, who will purchase the various commodities with which our warehouses are glutted, and which we must either sell, or perish with hunger.

No country could correspond better to these wishes of the philanthropist than Barbary. If this extensive coast, separated from Europe rather by the expanse of a large lake than by a sea, were subject to any other government than that of the ruffians by whom it is oppressed, it would soon be connected with us by a commerce most varied, most rich, and most profitable. This beautiful country has more than once been the centre of high civilization; it was rich, populous, industrious under the Carthaginians, under the Romans, under the Vandals, and under the Arabs. It holds intercourse with all the coasts of Europe much more easily and promptly, than these coasts with the capitals of their own states; the conveyance of goods would be more economical from Marseilles and Genoa to Tunis and Algiers, than to Paris, or even to Turin and Milan. Cato presented to the Roman senate figs yet fresh, which had been gathered under the walls of Carthage, although this fruit was no longer eatable at the end of three days. By shewing these figs, which he had carried under his robe, Cato made the ruin of Carthage be decreed; how much more powerfully should the same argument persuade us to restore to existence an empire so near to our coasts.

The magnificent shore of Africa was destined by nature to support at least sixty millions of inhabitants; it supports at present not more than five. Enriched by all the gifts of Heaven, within reach of all the enjoyments which our arts might diffuse, it ought to be inhabited by one of the happiest nations on earth; on the contrary, it is the abode only of crime and misery. We have doubtless no right to compel our neighbours to adopt our religion, our opinions, our manners; but we can ask them to live and let live. The mutual wants of all the nations of the earth cannot allow any one to make a vast country the abode of death. It is unnecessary, besides, to recur to abstract principles of international right, that we may decide what Europe would be entitled to do towards the people of Barbary; the latter have given Christian princes provocations so ample, as fully to authorize their interference.

We are often disposed to consider all the countries that lie south of our own, as consumed by the burning rays of the sun; those, on the contrary, who know Barbary, speak of it as a land of enchantment; thus it appeared to an intelligent Italian, whose work we shall immediately refer to; although the circumstances under which he was carried thither, were calculated to excite in him the most violent prejudices against Africa. M. Pananti, a Tuscan man of letters, who had long resided in England, was taken by the Algerines as he was returning from this last country, and condemned to slavery. He had, however, the good fortune to be liberated the next day.

However cruel the lot with which he was threatened at Algiers, Pananti was struck with admiration at the view of the African coast. "There is no country, (says he,) more favoured by Heaven and Nature; the coast of Africa was anciently considered, after Egypt, as the most fertile and rich of the Roman provinces, and as one of the first granaries of the city which

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reigned over the world. The Latin writers named it *the soul of the state, the jewel, speciositas totius terræ florentis;* and the great men of Rome knew no refinement of luxury and effeminacy equal to that of possessing palaces and country seats along this smiling shore.

"The climate of Barbary is mild and healthy, though the air, by its sharpness, is unfavourable to weak eyes and delicate lungs. The course of the seasons is generally regular; sometimes, indeed, the heats are excessive, but all the days of summer are refreshed by salutary winds from the north. Diseases are rare; the plague is not endemic; it is always brought from Constantinople. It has not raged there for twenty-four years, and might be excluded from all Barbary, by the use of the same precautions by which Europe is preserved from it.

"In Barbary, heat, joined to humidity, gives vigour and magnificence to the productions of the soil. Barley is the principal harvest, and the chief support of man. Wheat, Turkey corn, and a species of large pease called *garencas*, likewise abound. The Indian fig, which takes root with extreme facility, forms impenetrable hedges, by which the gardens and vineyards are enclosed. The shoots of the vine rise to a great height; they extend from one tree to another, in the form of superb festoons. Plantations of olives are numerous and productive; there occur also certain thorny shrubs, the fruit of which, as to taste and size, resembles the olives of Spain. The wild olive grows without culture; the grenade is three times larger than that of Italy; the melons arrive at an enormous bulk; figs abound, as well as oranges, of exquisite taste; chestnut trees are not numerous, and the chestnuts are small, though good. Oaks rise to a great height; among these may be distinguished the *Quercus ballota* of naturalists; the natives eat the acorn, which resembles in taste the wild chestnut. It is found also in the south of Spain, and ought to be introduced into Italy. There is also a species of cypress, the branches of which rise, in a pyramid, to a prodigious height. Here is commonly found the almond tree, the silk-worm-mulberry, the *Indigofera glauca* of dyers, the *cineraria* of marshes, which is employed against obstructions of the stone; the xenna, of which the Africans extract the juice, to stain the nails of the hands and feet; the *Scilla maritima*, the *bulbosa*, the *radicata;* the dwarf palm tree, the dates of which are very small; the *Saccharum cylindricum*, the *Agrostis pungens*, and, in the arid valleys, the *Cistus odorata*, the *Erica arborea*, and the superb *Cactus*, which supply to sheep a salutary pasture, and which embalm the air with the sweetest odours; the laurel rose embellishes and animates the country. When all is scorched by the heats of summer, the hillocks are covered with rosemary, which purify the atmosphere. We meet here and there little groves of those celebrated white roses, whence the purest essence is distilled. The sugar cane succeeds perfectly in this mild climate; the species called *soliman* is the loftiest and most juicy that is known on earth. After all, no fruit of this fertile land equals, in utility to the human race, those of the lotus and the palm-tree."

This magnificent country, this country so richly gifted by nature, so advantageously situated for the benefit of Europe, so celebrated in the annals of civilization, has been abandoned for three centuries to thirteen or fourteen thousand adventurers, enlisted in another quarter of the globe, strangers to Africa by their manners, their language, and their sentiments, and detested by its inhabitants, over whom they exercise a horrible tyranny. Those pirates who established themselves through the treason of the first Horuc Barbarossa, have kept their ground, to the shame of civilized nations; they have destroyed the arts, the sciences, the agriculture, the commerce, which threw a lustre on the courts of the Moorish sovereigns of Africa, in an equal degree, as on that of Grenada. They take advantage of their usurped sovereignty to arm piratical vessels, with which they threaten the coasts of Europe, plunder its ships, and reduce its inhabitants to slavery; they then employ the treasures, gained by robbery, in rendering the yoke heavier on the head of the unhappy Africans. When the nation which rules over the seas, impelled by the most outrageous provocations, resolved, at last, to crush the pride of the Dey of Algiers, her fleet gave only a barren proof of the na-

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tional valour; it burned a city which had taken no share in the crimes of the administration; then, instead of dictating laws to Africa, and breaking the yoke of foreign pirates, she acknowledged the Dey and his Turkish janissaries, as if they formed the legitimate government; she confirmed the slavery of the Moors and Berebbers, and she left to the nations which navigate the Mediterranean, no other guarantee but that of a treaty, of which it will be impossible to enforce the execution.

Europeans have to reproach themselves, not only with having allowed the Corsair states of Barbary to subsist so long, but also with having formed them to piracy by their own example. The Arabs, indeed, at their first establishment on the coasts of Africa, were urged on at once by fanaticism and love of glory; they appeared, on every occasion, as the aggressors in their wars with the nations of Europe. They wished to extend their conquests in all directions; at the same moment, they crossed into Spain, they founded colonies in Sicily, in Sardinia, in the Balearic islands, and they made frequent descents on the coast of France and Italy. But the Europeans had then no trade, while that of the Arabs was very extensive; the former were poor and barbarous, the latter opulent and civilized. A nation, rich, commercial, and skilful in all the arts, does not carry on piracy against one that is poor and ignorant, and destitute of a marine. The Arabs abused their superiority over the Christians, as the latter, in their turn, abused their superiority over the Negroes; but when they landed on any of the coasts of Europe, it was with the intention of forming a lasting settlement; and wherever they carried their arms, they introduced, at the same time, a superior civilization.

After all, these hostilities were not of long duration; the empire of the Moors became split in Africa, as in Spain, among a great number of independent princes. An illiberal religion, and a despotic government, had hastened their decline, and they had ceased to be formidable before Europeans attempted to become so. Yet the numerous courts of Fez, of Tetuan, of Tremezen, of Garbo, of Constantine, continued to encourage the arts and to protect agriculture; they had daily intercourse with the coasts of Italy and of Spain; Amalfi, Naples, Messina, and lastly, Pisa, Genoa, and Florence, were enriched by their frequent traffic with this fine country. The Venetian trade-fleet made annually the circuit of the Mediterranean; it touched successively at all the cities of Sicily, Africa, and Spain; and its arrival at each of the capitals of Barbary, became the signal of a fair regularly resorted to, not only by the inhabitants of the coast, but by the caravans of the desert. Thus, all the nations which inhabited the coast of the Mediterranean, derived benefit from that superb basin, which connects together so many climates, and facilitates the exchange of so many productions reciprocally useful.

Religious fanaticism, in the first years of the sixteenth century, occasioned the loss of all these advantages; the islands had been successively reconquered by the Christians, and the smallest arm of the sea was a sufficient barrier against the Turks, the Moors, and the Sultan of Egypt. The atrocious vengeance which the Christians exercised upon the coasts of the Turkish empire, for the success of the Osmanlis by land,—the ravages of Anatolia and Greece,—the reward of a ducat for every head brought in Christian vessels, promised by the Popes and the Venetian government, without distinction of age or sex, of peasants or soldiers, made the sultans of Constantinople feel the necessity of acquiring a marine. Mahomet II. began laboriously to form one, and was content that it should be rendered formidable by defeats. Yet his vessels, in fighting against the Christians, had constantly the disadvantage. The example of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem taught his successors, that the school of the imperial marine must be piratical warfare.

The religious order of St John of Jerusalem had at first opened an hospital for the pilgrims who went to the Holy Land; they had then been animated with a military zeal to defend the holy sepulchre. When they were driven from Jerusalem by the Musulmen, and obliged to take refuge in Rhodes, they exchanged the land for the sea service, and armed gallies to form an escort to the pilgrims of the

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Holy Land, and, at the same time, to give chase to the Turks. In the year 1465, the republic of Venice engaged in a war with the Order, to protect its commerce with the Musulmen against the pillage of the Knights. The capture of Rhodes in 1522 constrained the latter to take refuge at Malta, and once again to change their destination. They converted the rock, which served as a retreat to them, into the centre of Christian piracy;—they armed their gallies to chase every Musulman vessel. They would have thought it a breach of their religious vows to have pardoned an infidel. Their new abode removed them from the coasts of the Turkish empire, their ancient enemy, and brought them into the neighbourhood of the Moorish principalities, which had not offended them. But the Moors professed a reprobated religion, and this was a sufficient motive for war and hatred. The knights destroyed their commerce, burned their vessels, pillaged their fields, and fixed to the oars the unfortunate Musulmen sailors and merchants whom they surprised on the sea, or the peasants whom they carried off from the shore. The knights were formed, doubtless, by these expeditions, to the seafaring life; they displayed sometimes the intrepidity that distinguished them, but more frequently celerity of manœuvres, and talents for surprise and stratagem. In ceasing to be blinded by religious fanaticism, we are astonished at the power of prejudice which could hold out as the career of honour for the young nobility, this school of piracy, in which zeal for the faith afforded an excuse for cruelty, cupidity, and injustice.

The example of the Order of Malta was not lost upon the sultans. They found, in the Grecian islands, a numerous population, inured to a seafaring life; despotism had been yet unable to employ it in forming the imperial fleets; but Selim and Soliman encouraged their subjects to arm vessels to attack all the Christians, as the Knights of Malta attacked all the Musulmen. The life of a pirate, like that of a military partizan, presents to bold and enterprising spirits all the charms of independence. Men who would have exerted their very utmost activity to avoid being put on board the fleet of the Captain Pacha, were eager to arm vessels themselves for this petty warfare, and excellent mariners were soon formed under the banner of the crescent. The two brothers, Horuc and Ariadeno, who bore each the surname of Barbarossa, distinguished themselves in this career. These brothers, particularly the second, founded the piratical republic of Algiers, in imitation of the Order of Malta. They even sanctified piracy by religious fanaticism, and they promised to the soldiers who combated for the faith, at once the pillage of the Infidels upon earth, and a happy eternity in heaven. The supreme power at Algiers, as at Malta, was reserved to the foreign militia, who came to serve for the honour of religion in both republics; the reigning soldiery was recruited by voluntary enlistments in countries of the same faith, to the exclusion only of the country in which it reigned. In both, the militia reserved to itself the right of electing its chief; and the Dey, like the Grand Master, was, for the soldiers, the first among his equals; for the inhabitants, an absolute sovereign. Distinctions of birth were not known among the Turks, so that the proofs of nobility demanded at Malta could not be required at Algiers; yet the *Ortes* of Algiers were composed of freemen, while the Janissaries of Constantinople, and the Mamelukes of Egypt, are enfranchised slaves. As the Islamite religion made no virtue of continence, the Barbarossas could not bind their soldiers by a vow of chastity; nevertheless the government opposes their marriage, and studiously removes their children, the *Chiloulis*, from all share in the government. The republic of Zaporavian Cossacks, which the Turks say was founded in express imitation of the Order of Malta, went still farther; it absolutely excluded women from the countries which its soldiers inhabited, and whence they spread to ravage Poland, Russia, and all the shores of the Black Sea.

Thus was instituted *the religious and military order of Algiers*, but upon a far broader basis than that of Malta. A great kingdom was subjected to it; and a numerous population, considerable revenues, fortresses, seaports distributed over a long extent of coast, rendered it much more formidable; besides, its rise was precisely

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at the era when the mercantile marine of the Christians had been greatly extended, while that of the Musulmen sunk along with their commerce; the prizes of the Algerines became every day richer, those of the Knights every day poorer and less numerous. The two rival military orders fought sometimes for the honour of religion; both, however, preferred an encounter with merchant ships, and we have met with a person who was in more than sixty engagements in a Christian galley, without recollecting to have once seen a man wounded on board.

We must not look for these details in M. Pananti's book. He gaily apologises for not having made the researches which his readers might perhaps expect, on the ground that nothing was less voluntary than his voyage to Algiers. The truth is, that in the pages which he has entitled, *History and Revolutions of Barbary*, he accumulates a great number of errors. But he has seen facts; he is instructive when he relates them, and we recognise, even in his narrative, features of resemblance between Algiers and Malta, which he never thought of, features which must always be modified by the difference between the religious fanaticism of the Turks and that of the Christians, and which seem sometimes to make one the caricature of the other.

"The Turks of Algiers," says he, "are a foreign militia, come from Constantinople to defend the country, and to preserve it under the patronage and allegiance of the Grand Seignior of the Osmanlis. But this daring militia has found the power in its hands, it has refused to obey, and has become sovereign. These soldiers make and unmake the heads of the government; they occupy all the offices of state, they keep the Africans in slavery, they oppress them, and their daring character renders Algiers a theatre of revolutions, where blood never ceases to flow.

"Every two years the regency of Algiers sends vessels and commissioners to the Levant to obtain recruits, and thus fill the blanks which war, disease, and punishments, leave in the militia. They are drawn from the vilest of the populace of Constantinople, and from the greatest malefactors. They are so despised in the Levant, that no Turkish woman will follow them into Barbary. But scarcely are they arrived in Africa, and attached to an insolent and domineering militia, when they assume an important air, take the title of Essendi, and have all the pride and arrogance of soldiers of fortune. However vain they may be of their power, they feel no shame of their humble origin; on the contrary, they seem proud of having risen so high from so low a station. A Dey said one day to a consul, 'My father salted tongues at Pera, my mother sold them at Constantinople; I ought then to know tongues; but I never met a worse than thine.' Although these troops do not amount to more than twelve or thirteen thousand men, they hold in subjection five millions of people who abhor, but obey them. They deal, indeed, with a degraded race, who place their glory in humbling themselves, and who believe a man to be more honourable, the more he is a slave.

"The government of Algiers is a military republic, with a despotic chief. The administration is composed of the Dey, and of a council or assembly of the principal officers, called *dowane*, which we have turned into divan. But the constitution is now only a name; the whole authority rests with the Dey. It is a mixed government, and the worst of all mixtures. You see a turbulent election with all the symptoms of the most restless democracy, a prince invested with the most despotic power, an insolent aristocracy, composed of the principal officers of state; in short, a military government, with all its abuses, its violence, and its brutal ferocity.

"The chief of the Algerine government, named Dey, is always drawn from the body of Turkish soldiers; he obtains his post by election without a shadow of hereditary succession. Each soldier, at the death of the Dey, goes to the palace and gives his vote. Whoever is proposed, if he is not unanimously chosen, is excluded, and the operation is continued, till they come to a personage who obtains an unanimous vote. The elected person must be Dey, whether he will or will not, because all that happens on earth has been previously decreed in heaven, and no mortal is permitted to resist this supreme command. But a seditious fellow may raise his sword

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against his prince, and violently seize his place, for that too, say the Musulmen, had been predestinated, and consequently, could not fail to happen.

"It may be easily conceived, that in an assembly of soldiers, from whom an absolute unanimity is required, cabals and factions must rage in all their fury. While a great majority has proclaimed a chief, the malcontent janissaries assemble in other apartments of the palace, they seize the hall of election, massacre the intended chief, and substitute another, who, yet covered with the blood which he has shed, puts on the royal robe, and compels the terrified assembly to silence and approbation. Frequently the soldiers, in their quarters, raise an insurrection, and send a herald to the Dey with orders to quit the palace. As soon as he obeys, his head is struck off. Sometimes the prince is poisoned, sometimes he is assassinated on his way to the mosque; frequently a fanatic cuts off his head amidst the assembly of the divan, and the same scimitar which has given him authority serves to maintain it. These ferocious chiefs, elected amid blood and tumult, repeat then the maxim of a Tartar Emperor, 'If you wish to preserve the state tranquil, keep the sword of vengeance always waving.'

"As soon as a soldier is named Dey, he is invested with the caftan, a species of royal robe; he mounts the estrade, and all present exclaim, 'We consent, be it so, and God give him prosperity.' The Mufti proclaims him Dey; a discourse is read to him on the duties attached to his dignity; he is reminded, that God having called him to govern the state, he ought to employ his authority in punishing the wicked, in doing justice, in securing the public safety, and in paying the soldiers regularly. Those who are nearest kiss the hand of the new prince, the militia salute him, a cannon is fired to warn the people, and the ceremony is over.

"The election is followed by an universal change of men in office; the new Dey is not content with ridding himself of all his rivals, he often puts to death all the ministers of his predecessor, he seizes their wealth, he receives the presents of those whom he chuses to supply their place, he fills his treasure, but at the same time he must scatter gold among his soldiers. Hali Dey, raised to the throne after the tragic death of Ibrahim, surnamed the Madman, put to death on that occasion no less than 1700 persons. The people murmured at his barbarity, but far from moderating his fury, he pretended to have discovered a conspiracy, and caused Algiers to stream with blood.

"The Dey has the right of making war or peace, he assembles the divan when he pleases, he imposes tributes, he regulates all affairs except those of religion. He is supreme judge in all civil or criminal causes, and is obliged to give account of his behaviour, or to communicate his views to no one;—to resist his decrees would be to resist those of destiny. Heaven having given him all power, is believed also to have given him all knowledge; and those who were his equals are the first to fall at his feet."

S. S. I.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ANECDOTES, HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND MISCELLANEOUS.

(Continued from Page 310.)

II.—*Margaret of York.*

THIS princess, sister of Edward IV. of England, Duchess of Burgundy and Countess of Flanders, is repeatedly mentioned in the *Belgium Dominicanum*, by De Jonghe, Brussels, 1719, 4to, a book containing neat plates of all the monasteries, well illustrating the nature and comforts of those retirements, as they are bird's-eye views. An inscription at Ghent, p. 29, celebrates her foundation of the cloisters and library of the Dominican Convent, besides embellishments of the church, and the gift of ornaments and dresses. "The foresaid most illustrious, noble, and devout lady, died in the year 1503, on the 23d day of November, and is buried at Mechlin, in the church of the Friars Minors."

And page 113, "The church of St Agnes was founded in 1472 by Margaret Duchess of Burgundy, who, with great devotion, and with her own hands, laid the first stone of the foundation, in the presence of the suffragan, who the same day performed mass in her presence, which being finished, the Convent of Nuns went

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in procession, with the cross and banners, singing litanies, and followed by the Duchess and the Prioress, the next in order being the bishop and priests in solemn dresses, accompanied by a vast concourse of people."

She chose the church of the Friars Minors, at Mechlin, for her burial-place, but as no woman had ever been buried there, "among holy men," the friars laid her in the churchyard.

III.—*Scottish Painter.*

Caille, in his History of Printing and Bookselling, Paris, 1689, 4to, mentions, p. 232, the painter of Henry III. of France, Quesnel, as a native of Scotland.

IV.—*Music of Auvergne.*

It is a singular circumstance, that the Melodies of Auvergne, a mountainous region, in the heart of France, constitute a fourth class of national music with the Scottish, Irish, and Welch. Such as I have heard approach more to the Welch. Only one or two have been published in the *Voyage de Mont Dor;* and it is difficult to find any of the others, as the French despise ancient music. I am told, that they are imitated in a piece, of which the scene lies in Auvergne, called *Jeannot et Coline*, but I should doubt the accuracy of the imitation. It would be well worth while for a musical gentleman to visit Auvergne, and note the airs from the lips of the singers. He might also take a painter with him, for the country is not only celebrated as volcanic, but is the most picturesque of France.

John Duke of Albany married the heiress of Auvergne, and many of his letters are dated from the castle of Vic in that country. Besson, the mineralogist, had a view of that castle wildly placed on a rock of columnar basalt; but he is dead, and his collection of views in Auvergne is dispersed. J. P.

Paris, Oct. 1817.

ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF FUNDS DESTINED TO CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN EDINBURGH—WATSON'S—THOMSON'S.

MR EDITOR,

In the first number of the Edinburgh Monthly Magazine one of your correspondents very naturally inquires what is intended to be done with the fund left by Mr John Watson, writer to the signet? We are informed by the same correspondent, that the money left by the above mentioned gentleman was for *pious and charitable* purposes within the city of Edinburgh; that his trustees had fixed on the establishment of a Foundling Hospital, and that their decision had been confirmed by the Supreme Court. I have made some inquiries into this subject, but do not find that any measures have as yet been taken, either for the establishment of a Foundling Hospital, or for any other purpose. In March last, according to the statement of your correspondent, Watson's fund amounted to the sum of L. 62,000. Now, as the managers of the Royal Bank have granted a bonus of 50 per cent. to their proprietors, and as Watson's money, I find, is vested in the capital stock of that company, it must, with the late dividends amount to more than ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS. Is this enormous sum of money, I would ask, still to be unemployed? or do the Keeper and Commissioners of his Majesty's Signet intend to fulfil the intention of Mr Watson or his trustees? These are questions, Sir, in which I have no hesitation in saying the community have a deep interest, and to which, in these times of distress, they have a right to receive answer. If the Commissioners of the Signet have no intention of applying for an act of Parliament to alter the destination of this money, they certainly are not warranted in delaying to fulfil the final settlement of Mr Watson's trustees.

I have further to observe, Mr Editor, that while engaged in searching for information on the subject of Mr Watson's fund, I accidentally met with a deed of mortification by a Mr Joseph Thomson, designed sometime saddle-tree-maker in Edinburgh, and thereafter of Nortonhall of Eilden. By disposition and settlement and deed of mortification, executed 11th July 1774, the said Joseph Thomson conveyed to and favour of certain trustees therein mentioned, his whole lands and heritages, with some trifling exceptions, as also his whole moveable goods and gear of every kind, and all debts, whether heritable or moveable, in the first

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place, for payment of all his lawful debts and funeral charges; 2dly, For the payment of certain legacies; and the whole residue of his estate, after payment of his debts, funeral charges, and legacies, he mortified as a perpetual fund, the interest whereof was to be applied *for purchasing oat-meal or oats, to be made into meal to be distributed among the poor householders of Edinburgh, when the price of oatmeal exceeds tenpence the peck, and which meal is to be sold to these householders at tenpence the peck;* but he directed that one family shall not get above two pecks of it in one week. By a subsequent deed, executed 3d February 1786, proceeding on the narrative of the deed before mentioned, and that he had resolved to make some additions to and alterations of his former settlement, he grants new legacies, and revokes many of those in his first settlement; and a considerable additional property after the death of certain liferenters, is directed to go to the fund mortified by his former settlement; and he declared it to be his will that the lands of Eilden should not be sold by his trustees, but made over to the Lords of Session, and failing of them by non-acceptance, to the other persons mentioned in his former settlement, who were the Lord Advocate; whom failing, the Solicitor-General; whom failing, the Keeper of the Signet; whom failing, the Deputy-Keeper of the Signet, and their successors in office; and he so far altered the provisions as to the purchasing of meal or oats, as to declare that none of these purchases were to be made, unless the price of oatmeal exceeded one shilling per peck, and in that case, the same was to be sold out at tenpence a peck, whatever the current price might be. It is understood that the Lords of Session and other official persons named declined to accept as trustees for this mortification, except the Deputy Keeper of the Signet, who now holds the management thereof. Now, it is provided by the deed of 1776, "that a regular account is to be kept of the purchasing and disposing of the whole quantities of meal from time to time, *to be shewn to any of the ministers of Edinburgh, either Presbyterian or Episcopal, who shall think fit to take notice of this charitable intention.*" I would, therefore wish to know if any of the Reverend Gentlemen have taken the trouble of examining that account, and if they can inform us how many poor householders have benefited by Mr Thomson's mortification? I think, Sir, for the satisfaction of the public, a statement of every fund of this nature ought to be published annually. The Magistrates of Edinburgh deserve some credit for their exertions to get Watson's fund brought into use; and, as guardians of the community, I hold that it is their duty to look after the management of Thomson's mortification also. I am, Sir, &c.

AMICUS PAUPERIS JUNIOR.

Edinburgh, Dec. 1817.

CAPTAIN SCORESBY.

IT was with feelings of sincere satisfaction that we read, in a contemporary periodical work, an extract from a highly complimentary letter from the celebrated Baron Von Buch to Gay Lussac, concerning our distinguished countryman, Captain William Scoresby. Such a tribute from a man so eminently gifted by Nature as Von Buch, must have been no less gratifying to its object than it was creditable to its author. It affords an earnest of that value which the public will attach to the labours of an intelligent and original mind, when exerted upon a subject the most unique within the boundaries of human research; and may be regarded as a liberal and judicious anticipation of the opinion of scientific men upon one of the most novel productions of the present times. Captain Scoresby has long been regarded, by those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance, as a person from whom much may be expected in the course of his professional avocations; and, should he ever be called to the command of an expedition fitted out with a view to the furtherance of maritime discovery, no doubt need be entertained of his acquitting himself to his own lasting honour, and to the farthest possible advancement of the particular purpose which such expedition may have in view. His long continued experience as a captain in the Greenland Seas, where he has been for many years in the practice of navigating from the southern limits of the whale-fishery to the very highest attainable northern latitudes, points him out as a person pe-

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culiarly well fitted for taking the lead in any enterprise connected with the question of a north-west passage, while the knowledge which he has acquired on general subjects of science, —his natural inclination, which induces him to attend with an observant eye to every thing around him,—and the clear and philosophical manner in which he conveys his information—render doubly valuable his great practical skill, and acknowledged prudence and courage as a seaman.

The paper alluded to by Baron Von Buch contains a very interesting account of the nature and appearance of the Polar ice, and is, in fact, the only correct and philosophical communication of which we are possessed, concerning the formation of those extensive *fields* and magnificent icebergs which constitute the most prominent and singular features of the Greenland Seas. The sudden and ruinous increase of the enormous icy barrier which unexpectedly surrounded the eastern coast of West Greenland is also detailed. That awful catastrophe is known to have cut off all intercourse between a thriving and populous colony and its mother country, and, in all probability, to have left its wretched settlers to perish by the most excruciating and lingering death of cold and hunger. Such a circumstance makes a powerful appeal to every kind and humane feeling of the human heart; and any description of the means by which it was effected must necessarily be considered with the deepest interest. In the course of his paper, Captain Scoresby conveys much useful and curious information concerning the haunts of the whales, —the dangers and difficulties to be encountered in their pursuit,—the laborious efforts which it is necessary to use when ships are in a state of *besetment* in the ice,—and a narrative of the fatal effects which occasionally result from such a misfortune. Mention is also made of one of the most wonderful approximations to the north pole of which we have distinct and undeniable testimony. In the year 1806, the ship Resolution, of Whitby, commanded by Captain Scoresby's father, (he himself at that time acting as chief mate,) attained to the latitude of 81½° north.

There are some interesting particulars stated in regard to the very general drifting of unconnected ice to the south-westward, and an account of a very beautiful and useful phenomenon, well known in the Greenland Seas under the name of *ice-blink*. It is occasioned by the reflection of the rays of light from the snowy surface of the ice upon the superincumbent atmosphere.

"Hence," says Captain Scoresby, "when the ice-blink occurs under the most favourable circumstances, it affords to the eye a beautiful and perfect map of the ice twenty or thirty miles beyond the limit of direct vision, but less distinct in proportion as the air is hazy. The ice-blink not only shews the figure of the ice, but enables the experienced observer to judge whether the ice thus pictured be field or packed ice; if the latter, whether it be compact or open, bay or heavy ice. Field ice affords the the most lucid *blink*, accompanied with a tinge of yellow; that of packs is more purely white; and of bay ice, greyish. The land, on account of its snowy covering, likewise occasions a blink, which is yellowish, and not much unlike that produced by the ice of fields."

The wonderful and sudden change produced on the aspect of the Greenland landscape (if such an expression may be used in relation to a country where land is so little seen) by the breaking up of extensive fields of ice by a heavy swell, is also well described in the following passage:—

"The destruction is in many cases so rapid, that, to an inexperienced observer, the occurrence seems incredible, and rather an illusion of the fancy than a matter of fact. Suppose a ship immoveably fixed in bay ice, and not the smallest opening to be seen; after a lapse of time sufficient only for a moderate repose, imagine a person rising from his bed, when, behold, the insurmountable obstacle has vanished! Instead of a sheet of ice, expanding unbroken to the verge of the horizon on every side, an undulating sea relieves the prospect, wherein floats the wreck of the ice, reduced apparently to a small fraction of its original bulk! This singular occurrence I have been more than once witness to."

We shall not at present anticipate, by further extracts, the pleasure to be derived from a perusal of the paper itself, which we know will be laid before the public in a very few weeks, as part of the Memoirs of the Wernerian Natural History Society, (Part 2d, Vol II.)

The concluding part of Captain

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Scoresby's paper is occupied in detailing some of the most remarkable approximations which have hitherto been made to the Poles. It also contains an account of Captain Scoresby's own particular views concerning the possibility of visiting the North Pole by travelling across the ice, in a sledge drawn by rein-deer, or dogs. This part of the paper is drawn up with so much judgment and ability, that if such an expedition is really within the range of possibility, and which, from the facts and arguments adduced, we now see no great reason to doubt, it is evident that Captain Scoresby is the person to be chosen from all others to conduct it.

The extract from the Baron Von Buch's letter, before referred to, must be so gratifying to Captain Scoresby's friends, and the more so, on account of its acknowledged justice, that we shall take the liberty of laying it before our readers.

"The memoir which I now send you contains a great many facts hitherto very imperfectly known, and makes us acquainted with a part of the globe concerning which we possess very little accurate information. I confess the reading of this memoir interested me extremely. The author, Mr Scoresby, is a most excellent observer. He has visited the polar regions fifteen times, and every year has touched to 80 degrees of north latitude. His private papers contain numerous observations on the temperature of the sea, at its surface, and at different depths. He has devoted much time to the determination of the specific gravity of the water of the different tracts of the ocean which he travelled, and has been careful to bring with him bottles of these waters. Mr Scoresby is also known as one of the most courageous and skilful of the captains who frequent the Greenland seas; he, indeed, is a man worthy of being placed along with a Hudson, a Dampier, and a Cook; and, if he should ever be placed at the head of a voyage of discovery, I am persuaded that his name will descend to future ages with those of the most able navigators."

We trust it will not be deemed uninteresting to our readers to be further informed, that Captain Scoresby is at present preparing to lay before the public the result of his own observations on Greenland, along with an account of its history and colonization from the earliest times to the present day.

Such a work may be anxiously expected as the most complete account of that highly interesting country. We may remark, that Captain Scoresey uses the name Greenland, in its most extended signification, as comprehending not only Greenland, properly so called, but also Spitzbergen, and the adjacent isles. We cannot convey a more accurate notion of the scope and intention of this desirable work, than by mentioning the different general heads, of which it is proposed it should consist.

"I. An account of the progress of discovery in the north, with a synopsis of the numerous voyages undertaken in search of a Northern Passage to India.

"II. An account of West Greenland; its extent, appearance, natural history, aborigines, colonies, manners and customs of the inhabitants, &c.

"III. East Greenland, or Spitzbergen; its appearance, natural history, harbours, icebergs, mountains, colonization, products, &c.

"IV. The natural history of the Greenland seas, containing,

"1*st*, An account of the Greenland Sea; its situation and extent, temperature both at the surface, and at considerable depths, currents, tides, depth, &c.

"2*d*, The Polar Ice; its varieties and properties, mode of generation, &c.; its extent, situation, and variation; with remarks on the practicability of performing a journey over the ice to the North Pole.

"3*d*, The atmosphere; its changes of pressure, &c.; its temperature, probable temperature of the North Pole, &c.; winds, their duration, and frequency of storms in the spring of the year, &c.; meteors, clouds, snow and its numerous crystallizations, hail, frost-rime, aurora borealis, &c.

"4*th*, The Zoology; the whale and its various genera; the walrus, seal, bear, &c.; birds; non-descript mollusca, and other marine animals, &c.

"V. The history of the Northern whale-fishery; shewing its progress, with an account of those principles on which a successful fishery depends, &c.

"VI. The history of the minor fisheries; for seals, walruses, &c.; with the method of killing these and other animals, inhabitants of the Greenland seas.

"VII. A journal of a Greenland whale-fishing voyage.

"VIII. Appendix; containing a series of meteorological tables; tables of the variation of the compass, latitudes and longitudes, &c. from original observations.

Edinburgh, 10*th Dec.* 1817. W.

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REMARKS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF SCIENCE IN EDINBURGH.

MR EDITOR,

In a former letter I endeavoured to give some account of the circumstances which have raised this northern metropolis to that high rank as a seat of learning, which, throughout the whole of Europe, it is now allowed to hold. There are three circumstances, you will readily perceive, to which a University may be indebted for the fame it may have acquired. It may be possessed of a superior plan of education to that which is embraced by contemporary seminaries,—or its teachers may be distinguished for the assiduity and zeal with which they are disposed to discharge the duty entrusted to them,—or its members may have connected themselves, by the importance of their discoveries, with the improvements which science itself has been receiving. Now, if my object in my former letter had been to attend particularly to the first of these circumstances, I should have been led to discuss the important question, which has frequently been agitated during recent years, respecting the comparative merits of those plans of education which have been adopted by the English and by the Scotch Universities. An examination of the second circumstance, again, would have necessarily led me into details of character which are unsuitable to the object for which I write, and which could also have afforded but little information to the generality of readers. In my former communication, therefore, I endeavoured, though in a very rapid and general manner, to give some account of the third circumstance I have noticed; and I trust your readers have not forgotten the conclusion in which my observations terminated,—that not only has the University of this city kept pace in the career of instruction it has adopted, with the great advances which science has been making during the preceding century, but that there is scarcely a single department of science which has not derived some of its most valuable improvements from individuals connected with this seminary. To these observations I added some further details respecting the circumstances which have extended the influence of literature throughout that greater department of the inhabitants of this city who are less directly connected with the business of education—and I now proceed, in pursuance of my original design, to offer, on the same general plan, a short sketch of the science of this place, as it is allowed to exist at the present moment.

1*st*, Proceeding, then, in the same order as in my former observations, it is scarcely necessary that I should stop to remark, that the medical department of this University continues to be conducted with the same ability and success as at any former period. So widely, indeed, is the fame of this seminary diffused, especially as a school of medical instruction, that, if we may believe a late, though I am afraid rather a suspicious account, the merits of this city, in this department of knowledge, have even been the theme of some interesting conversation among the distinguished inhabitants of the island of St Helena. But whatever may be the truth of this account, there are some obvious circumstances which cannot fail to have a very powerful effect in preserving this institution during many years, in much of the vigour which it has hitherto enjoyed. So recent, indeed, is the institution itself, that the names of several of its founders are still held by some of the most distinguished individuals who now support the fame of this school,—and the whole body have thus not only the incitement which the flourishing state of this seminary presents, but that further very powerful inducement which springs from the recollection of the men they have succeeded, to preserve their school from falling from the rank which it is known to have held under their illustrious predecessors. The medical school of this city, however, it must further be recollected, is by no means confined to that course of instruction which is afforded by the established routine of the University,—lecturers of the very highest merit, and in every department of medical science, surround with the salutary efficacy of their zeal, the established seat of academical instruction; and so powerfully does this spirit of lecturing prevail, that no sooner is there a probability of students being obtained for any new department, than individuals of high accomplishment are

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ready to offer themselves as instructors in this line. Within these few years, two lectureships, which appear to myself to be of infinite importance, not, indeed, to what is more properly the business of a physician, but to a perfect system of medical instruction, have been instituted in this way, by gentlemen of the very highest medical acquirements,—I mean the class of Physiology—and that of Comparative Anatomy. Your readers, I am persuaded, will readily perceive the value of both these institutions,—the one from its tendency to give just philosophical ideas of a profession which has always been remarkable for substituting the utmost wildness of theory, in the place of well established and instructive facts,—and the other not only from its adaptation to throw much additional light on the interesting system of the animal economy, but from its intimate connection with those other important speculations which now employ the philosophical world. From these observations, however, your readers will perceive, that the medical school of this place is not only rich in remembrances of the eminent men who have formerly superintended and guided its instructions, but is also guarded from decay by the salutary rivalship which is allowed to take place between the members of the University and those unendowed lecturers who are altogether dependent on the success of their labours;—and that on both these accounts we may indulge the hope, that the University of this city in its medical department will long continue to be regarded as one of the first schools which Europe possesses.

2d, The low state of mathematical learning in this country has now become a subject of very general regret among the votaries of that science; both departments of Britain, indeed, are at present far behind most of the Continental nations in mathematical acquirements; but Scotland, in particular, has long been on the decline in this respect, and nothing is more common than to hear it lamented, that the lighter and more disputatious kinds of philosophy have completely destroyed any taste we possessed for the more valuable demonstrations of the exact sciences. Now this, I readily confess, is a very great evil—for it is unquestionable, that by far the sublimest achievements of human genius are open only to those who are intimately acquainted with the writings of mathematicians; and that though a man were thoroughly informed as to all the other departments of knowledge, if he is ignorant of all that the mathematicians have done, he belongs but to a secondary class in the republic of letters. I am decidedly of opinion, at the same time, that this acknowledged deficiency (which is common, as I have said, to both departments of this island) is by no means to be attributed to any thing unfavourable on the part of the natives. Britain has in fact the honour of having produced, in better days, the most accomplished mathematicians that ever lived; and the mathematical chair of the University of this city has been filled, during the long period of a century and a half, by men whom the voice of Europe has decidedly placed in the very first rank of scientific accomplishment. The defect I have mentioned, therefore, can only exist in the peculiar nature of our public institutions; and I think I shall have little difficulty in making your readers understand how the matter stands in this respect, in so far as this northern department of the island is concerned.

The truth then seems to be, that, in order to have a system of public instruction, which shall be peculiarly propitious to the cultivation of the mathematics, two things are absolutely necessary. It is necessary, in the first place, that the education of the student, in the branches subsidiary to this department, be begun almost with the first instruction which his boyhood receives; and, secondly, that when he comes to enter more decidedly upon the great field of mathematical research, his attention be not too powerfully solicited by other pursuits which are of a more attractive, but far less important nature. On the continent of Europe, accordingly, where, during the last thirty years, mathematical learning has made such prodigious advances, the first of these requisites is universally admitted; and the example of England seems to sanction the necessity of the other, by consecrating one of her academical seats almost exclusively to the cultivation of mathematical science. It is needless for me to remark on how very

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different a system our education is at present conducted. Most of our youth begin their career of liberal study with the most scanty acquaintance with the art of calculation which can well be imagined;—they are far, therefore, from being masters of that preparatory language in which the most important discoveries of science are contained;—while, at the same time, from the order in which their mathematical studies occur, they are inevitably solicited by the very powerful temptation of resigning the fatigue of abstract investigations for the more splendid attractions of those departments of philosophy, with the language of which they are of course perfectly acquainted. From all this, it necessarily results, that the mathematical acquirements, of by far the greater number of those who attend our Universities, are left in the most unfinished state; and that though a few are occasionally carried by the impulse of genius to the prosecution of studies for which they are peculiarly adapted, many also who might have attained the highest eminence in the department of mathematical and analytical learning, are seduced by the temptations which are thrown in their way into the more fascinating paths of metaphysical research, or into the still more alluring retreats of polite learning.

After all, I am not certain, that, in one very important respect, we lose greatly by this course of study. A system of liberal education may be regarded as destined to the accomplishment of two different objects. It may either be considered as adapted for the training of men who are to be distinguished in the walks of scientific research,—or as fitted for conveying to the mass of the community (to that part of the community at least whose circumstances lead them to liberal study) such a general acquaintance with *all* the departments of knowledge, as may at once liberalize their own minds, and prepare them for engaging with ability and success in the diversified scenes of active life. Now, I have not the smallest hesitation in saying, that, if these two objects are found to be incompatible, the last is that which ought most certainly to be preferred; and I think it is equally clear, that, whatever may have been the case with the Universities of England, the founders of our seminaries at least had more distinctly in view the latter of these objects. I think you will also agree with me, that, when the latter of these objects chiefly is in view, there is no plan of instruction which a University could adopt that is less adapted for accomplishing its design, than that which should assign to mathematical learning an importance paramount to that of every other study. Nothing, I apprehend, can be more evident than that the kind of reasoning in which mathematicians indulge is *essentially* different from that by which all the business of life is accomplished;—no man thinks, in his ordinary occupations, in the language or in the train of a mathematical demonstration; and the best habits of study, for the business of life, must evidently be those by which the mind is prepared in the most effectual manner for understanding those trains of moral reasoning, which are constantly called for by our ordinary occupations, it is upon these grounds that I have ventured to assert, that though I deeply lament the neglect of mathematics, considered as the most essential training for a philosopher, I am not, however, so certainly convinced, that, by the prevailing taste for other pursuits, we have been greatly losers, in so far as the ability of our people is concerned, for the scenes of active and manly occupation.

3d, We have long been considered as decidedly a metaphysical generation; and the general belief of foreigners seems to be, that our education is almost entirely confined to abstract disquisitions respecting cause and effect. I am disposed to believe that there is something in the genius of our people which peculiarly fits them for such investigations;—we are unquestionably an acute and a reflecting people, and no person who has attentively considered the tendencies of our countrymen, can fail to have remarked with what cordial satisfaction even the lowest of our peasantry receive those curious mixtures of mysticism and of metaphysics which are still too frequently substituted by their ecclesiastical instructors for the pure and simple morality of the gospel. While I am thus readily disposed, however, to admit the existence of something in the original constitution of our minds, which is peculiarly favourable to abstract investigation, I think it is evident, on the other hand,

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that the degree to which such pursuits have long been prevalent among us is chiefly to be attributed to the manner in which our studies at the University are conducted. I have already remarked, that the choice is there at once presented to the student between the dry demonstrations of the exact sciences, and the fascinating discussions of metaphysical inquiry;—he must, in fact, either become a mathematician, or a pneumatologist; and it is easy to perceive, that, with the generality of students, this latter study, which requires no previous acquaintance with a peculiar symbol, and no long preparation for unfolding its mysteries, will naturally become the favourite pursuit. We accordingly consider ourselves as adepts in all that is valuable in philosophy, when we have devoted a year or two to one of its departments, and believe, with the usual conceit of ignorance, that nothing is worthy of being investigated or known beyond that with which we are particularly acquainted.

I ought, however, to remark, that what we now class under the head of metaphysics, is in reality a study of a very different description from that which formerly passed under the same denomination. Improved as every department of philosophy has been in modern times, and, indeed, within the comparatively short period of a century and a half, this great department could not possibly escape the same meliorating influence. It has accordingly risen, as you well know, from being a mighty mass of ill-assorted reasonings, to the dignity of a science of the very first importance; and, though I am ready to allow, that, from the very nature of the study, a person may be acquainted with all its details, and yet be possessed of a very scanty portion of knowledge, I hold it to be equally certain, that no individual can do justice to this study, without obtaining an acquaintance with the rules of investigation, and with the capacity and limits of the human understanding, which he could not equally derive from any other source. I consider the philosophy of mind, therefore, as it is at present conducted, to constitute by far the most valuable of all the parts of that discipline to which a well educated youth is required to submit. Indeed, I think I have always perceived, that whenever an individual has given much attention to this study in his youth, he never fails to display in after life a depth of understanding, and a philosophical mode of considering his subject, with which no other sort of preparation could have so effectually gifted him. Enriched as this study now is with many beautiful speculations respecting the philosophical principles of criticism and taste, as well as with a very successful analysis of some of the most important operations of the human understanding, it promises, I think, to shed a radiance round philosophy which must greatly facilitate her progress to perfection; and though of itself it is evidently quite inadequate to furnish the mind with a complete assortment of knowledge, I am yet persuaded, that, among all the various departments of study considered as a preparation for future researches, this is the one which could least easily be dispensed with.

Important, however, as I consider this department of science to be, I am afraid, that, with regard to the number of its active cultivators, it is at present in rather a declining condition. The excitement given to the ambition of the studious by the publication of the metaphysical essays of Reid, has long been replaced by other fascinations. So immense a range of study is now opened to the inquisitive, that a small portion either of inclination or of leisure is necessarily left for those patient investigations by which only the philosophy of mind can be carried to perfection; and, though this science has had the peculiar advantage of being illustrated and improved by one of the most eloquent individuals of modern times, it is notorious that the number of those who are devoted to this study is limited and defective in a remarkable degree. Much, I think, might be expected from the ability and accomplishments of the eminent individual who now presides over the principal department of metaphysical study in this University. That gentleman is known to be gifted not only with metaphysical talents of the very first order, but with a taste also for what is elegant in every branch of literature, which is of infinite importance to the cultivation of his science; and I cannot help, therefore, expressing a hope, that, with all these advantages, he will soon ful-

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fil the very splendid promise of his early youth, and will relinquish the "unprofitable art of Poesy," to devote himself, without interruption, to the improvement of a science, on which he is qualified to confer the most important benefits, and which cannot fail, when successfully improved, to shed a most auspicious light on all the departments both of liberal knowledge, and of elegant learning.

4th, Your readers, I presume, are acquainted with the interest which the researches of geology have recently excited in every country of Europe. Many circumstances, however, contributed to give this study, and its kindred pursuits, a more than ordinary fascination for the scholars of this land. One of the rival theories which now divide the geological world, originated in this city; the arguments most favourable to the positions of that theory, have been chiefly suggested by facts and appearances characteristic of the rocks which surround this metropolis. The leading doctrines of the Huttonian hypothesis have been eloquently illustrated by a distinguished member of the University of this place; and on all hands, it is agreed, that the scenery of Scotland offers one of the most interesting fields of examination which is any where presented to the curiosity of a mineralogist. From all these circumstances, it was naturally to be expected that a strong prejudice would be awakened in this country in favour of that theory which was of native growth, and against any views which might aim at its subversion. Upon the promulgation of the doctrine of the German mineralogist, a strenuous effort was accordingly made to lessen its credit, and to refute its details. The learned of this metropolis were invited to witness the public disputations of the leading antagonists, and nothing was heard, even in the politest companies, but discussions of the merits of the Neptunists and Plutonists. The former party, however, appear to have obtained a decisive superiority; the voice of the majority is at least, at this moment, unequivocally in their favour,—and, though it is generally allowed that the theory of the Huttonians was peculiarly worthy, from the grandeur and novelty of the views which it disclosed, of the exertions which were made to support its authority, the system of the Neptunists seems to be almost universally regarded as more consistent with the conclusions of observation, and with the rules which should guide a philosophical investigation.

In one very important respect I believe you will agree with me in thinking, that the victory which has been gained was devoutly to be wished for. The views of the Huttonians, it ought never to be forgotten, were confined to the establishment of a philosophical hypothesis respecting the order which takes place in the transformations of our globe. The author of that theory was himself but imperfectly acquainted with mineralogical details. The most distinguished of his supporters have not been remarkable for their attainments in this science; and it is pretty generally asserted to be one of their maxims, that a very correct theory of the earth may be formed upon a very slight foundation of mineralogical information. The theory of Werner, on the contrary, deserves to be considered as a strict induction from the mineralogical facts which had fallen under his observation. The most valuable part of his doctrine, in truth, consists, not in the theory by which he has explained his arrangement, but in the beautiful order it has been his fortune to disclose, in the actual distribution of mineral substances. His disciples have distinguished themselves by a most persevering industry in collecting observations in every quarter of the globe; and his theory itself is so constructed, as to admit of any modifications or changes which the progress of observation may show to be necessary. In these circumstances, I think you will agree with me in believing, that, had the doctrine of the Huttonians obtained the ascendancy, we should have become indeed the disciples of a most captivating hypothesis, and might have, further, been able, in our ordinary conversations, to pass with the utmost familiarity and dispatch, "extra flammantia mœnia mundi," into those prior scenes of antiquated nature of which the impressive memorials are every where around us—(a power unquestionably of no ordinary fascination)—but that we had little chance of seeing our own puny department of the world examined and traversed

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with any accuracy of research. This, I apprehend, however, is what we are every way entitled to expect, from the victory which has been gained by the disciples of Werner. A host of active observers is now, in fact, rapidly forming in this country, under the guidance of the very accomplished leader who has mainly contributed to the success of the cause; and I have little doubt, that, in consequence of his exertions, we shall soon obtain a very minute acquaintance with all the minerological appearances which this interesting country so profusely exhibits.

I am aware, however, that a great deal is still to be done in order to give the science of natural history that extension in this country which the captivating nature of the study itself, and the admirable opportunities for its successful prosecution which are afforded by the picturesque features of our landscape, entitle it to obtain. Our collections of all sorts are still in a very defective and miserable condition, and, without these, you will readily perceive that little efficient industry can be expected in this department. It is something, however, to have had the attention of the country very generally awakened to this pursuit; and I have little doubt, that, entering on this study with our characteristic ardour, we shall soon be able to take a distinguished part in that scientific examination of the appearances of Nature which has lately been pursued with such unexampled success by almost every other country in Europe.

5th, Considering, generally, the literary character of the inhabitants of this city, it appears to me, that there is one very obvious feature of difference between the present generation and their immediate predecessors. It is universally admitted, that, towards the latter part of the preceding century, this city was the residence of one of the most illustrious assemblages of accomplished men that ever, perhaps, were known to appear together. The works of these eminent individuals continue to hold the very first rank in the literature of this country; and England, with all her extent of population, and with all the learning by which her scholars are enriched, has never been able to outstrip the excellence which was then displayed by the scholars of this provincial capital. Most of the individuals, however, to whom I have now alluded, were scholars by profession; they were devoted either to general literature, or to the cultivation of some particular science, and were universally occupied in the composition of works, for which they looked forward to the applause and veneration of posterity. It cannot be said, that, at the present moment, the scholars of this metropolis are either fewer in number, or inferior in ability, to the illustrious men who immediately preceded them. But there is, I imagine, a very obvious difference between the aspects assumed by these different groupes,—a difference which appears, indeed, almost necessarily to result from the more general diffusion of literary accomplishment. Our men of talent seem less desirous, at present, of being regarded as great *authors*;—few of them are known to be engaged in works which necessarily require much leisure for their completion;—and the prevailing fashion seems rather to consist in uniting literary accomplishments with professional activity, than in maintaining the single character of men of letters. The effect is the same which takes place in society itself as it gradually advances from imperfection to refinement. That knowledge which is at first the distinction of a few, soon becomes the general inheritance of the community; and accomplishments which were originally valued for themselves, are at last regarded as but necessary instruments for the performance of the ordinary business of life. Such, I apprehend, has been the progress of accomplishment, in so far as the literature of this metropolis is concerned. The attainments which gave distinction to the characters of our fathers have been transmitted, in some instances even with increased lustre, to the more numerous generation who have succeeded to their honours; and though the character of this city, as a seat of learning, was never higher than at the present moment, our most eminent men either unite their accomplishments with an active discharge of laborious duties, or aim rather at improving the taste of their contemporaries, by the dissemination

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of their views in occasional publications, than at the composition of great and continuous works.

There is one other feature of the literature of this city to which, before concluding, I wish to direct the attention of your readers. I mean the tendency which it has lately manifested to illustrate the peculiarities of our national manners. Scotland, in fact, has many advantages for the production of an appropriate and national literature. The romantic features of the country itself;—the interesting traditions which the prejudices of the people have almost universally associated with the peculiarities of our landscape;—the remarkable system of manners and opinions which formerly characterized the inhabitants of this country;—and those splendid exhibitions of national prowess, which the record of our history so frequently presents—have all combined to fix upon this country a character adapted in a very peculiar manner to become the subject of very interesting and powerful description. The peculiarities of our manners, however, were rapidly fading in the general amalgamation of our opinions and habits with those of the nations which immediately surround us; and it must ever be regarded as a most fortunate event, that these peculiarities have at length arrested the attention of an author who is pre-eminently qualified to depict them with effect—whose influence upon the literary taste of the age has already been established in the most unequivocal manner—and who has been able, by the powerful character of his genius, to render interesting, even to those who are unacquainted with our customs, the language and the traditions by which we have long been distinguished. A vast harvest, however, still remains to be gathered from this interesting field; and your excellent Miscellany, Mr Editor, can seldom be better employed than in accomplishing the work it has already so well begun, by collecting, for the information of future inquirers, the materials so profusely afforded by a country which, in the picturesque features of its natural scenery, and in the poetic character of the peculiarities of its inhabitants, is not inferior to any department of Europe.

In a future communication I shall offer some observations on the defects of the scientific establishments of this city; and, in the meantime, I am, &c.

P.

ANCIENT CIRCLES OF STONES DISCOVERED UNDER GROUND IN THE PARISH OF CREICH, FIFESHIRE.

MR EDITOR,

As the antiquities of a country must be highly valuable to every one who would possess an intimate acquaintance with the ancient manners and customs of its inhabitants, the following statement of facts may be interesting to many of your readers:—

In the spring of the year 1816, while some workmen were employed in trenching a piece of ground a little to the south-west of my manse, they came to a number of stones, about eight or ten inches below the surface, placed in a regular form. The part of the country in which these regularly arranged stones were situated is very uneven. Three ridges of hills, extending in different directions, terminate on the west in Norman's Law, the most elevated ground in the north of Fife. On the south side of the most northern of these ridges, and about midway between the top of one of the hills and a small rivulet which flows along the strath, there is a lateral shelf, upon which these stones were discovered. This northern ridge extends in a direction from east to west.

From the workmen frequently meeting with stones of all sizes in the course of trenching, unfortunately the regular arrangement of those above mentioned was not attended to, until two carved stones were cast up, with the figures upon each very entire. This circumstance naturally led to an examination of all the stones, to a consideration of the manner in which they were originally placed, and to an attention to those which yet remained untouched. Upon examination, no other figured stone appeared; but, what was remarkable, many of those taken up were sandstone, while the hill on which they were placed, and all the hills in the neighbourhood, are whinstone rock. Those which remained untouched were set on end, and so arranged as to form two arches of concentric circles. So far as could be judged at the time of discovery,

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the whole erect stones, which were, in general, from a foot and a half to two feet and a half high, were so placed as to make up two figures of a circular, or, perhaps, more nearly of an elliptical form, the one contained within the other. In the centre was a cylindrical stone pillar of the same height with the rest, and near to it were the carved stones.

It is to be regretted that most of the stones were taken up before their number, their regular arrangement, and individual position, were ascertained. This good effect, however, esulted from the discovery of this structure, that it induced some workmen, who were lately ploughing a field about five or six hundred yards due east of the place above described, to conclude, when their ploughs repeatedly struck against some stones, that they had come to something similar to what had been so recently discovered at so short a distance, and to pay particular attention to preserve every stone in its original position. They accordingly proceeded to remove all the earth with the greatest care, and their expectations of finding another curiosity were soon completely realized. Upon acquainting me with the circumstance, I went and carefully examined the situation of this structure; attended to its form and arrangement; then took the dimensions of its different circles, and the stones of which they were composed. Its situation, like that of the former, was a lateral flat on the south side of the same ridge of hills, and also at an equal distance from the summit and the stream below.

In the centre was placed, in an upright position, a cylindrical sandstone, one foot two inches high, (marked C in the annexed drawing,) and having the diameter of its base one foot. Around this stone, as a centre, at the distance of three feet, were sixteen other stones, placed also in an upright position, and in the form of a circle. This circle is marked B. The stones of which it was composed were of various sizes, from fifteen to twenty inches in height; from eight to eighteen in breadth, and from four to nine in thickness. Due south of the centre, and between it and the circle B, there were placed in a horizontal position, two stones containing hieroglyphics in *alto relievo*, very entire. The remaining space between the centre and the circle was laid with pavement. At the distance of seven feet and a half from the same central pillar C, there was another circle of stones marked A, thirty-two in number, placed in an upright position, and very much resembling those of the inner circle B. The stones in both circles were placed close together. Between the circles there was neither pavement nor stone of any description. Neither A nor B were perfect circles, the diameter of A, from north to south, being fifteen feet one inch, while its diameter from east to west was only fourteen feet nine inches; in the same manner, the diameter of B, from east to west, was five feet ten inches, while from north to south it was six feet one inch.

It is curious to observe, that many of the stones here found, like those discovered last year, are sandstone, while none of the same kind can be got nearer than a quarry at Cupar moor, which is seven miles distant.

It is also worthy of notice, that the number of stones in the outer circle A, corresponds exactly with the number of points in the compass, that in the inner circle B there is half the number, and that in both circles a stone larger than the rest is placed at each of the cardinal points.

At the distance of a few yards on the south, there were also discovered under ground two curious whinstones, of one of which fig. 4. is a correct drawing. It resembles in shape the frustum of a cone, with a small projection at the greater end, through which is a round hole. From this, at the distance of nine inches, and also near the base, is a slit two and a half inches in length, and extending inwards about an inch and a half; on the side directly opposite to this slit part of the stone is broken off. The perpendicular height of the frustum is seven inches, the diameter of the small end is seven and a half inches, and the diameter of the greater end is eleven. At the top or small end of the stone there is an excavation, around which is a margin of rather more than half an inch in breadth. From this cavity, which is five inches in depth, and capable of containing a quart, there is a round hole reaching to the bottom of the stone.

The other stone is so much broken that I have not attempted to give you

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Fig. 1.

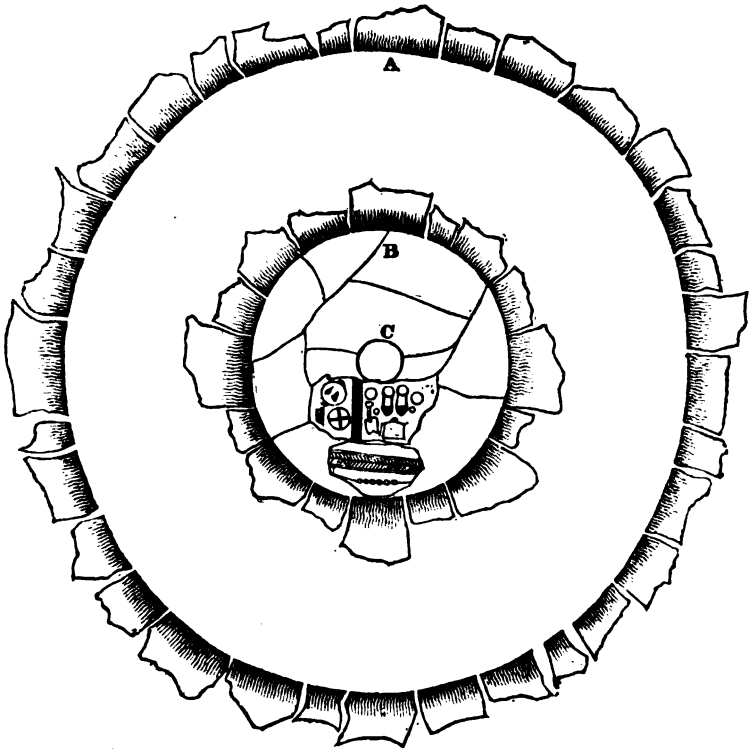

Fig. 2.

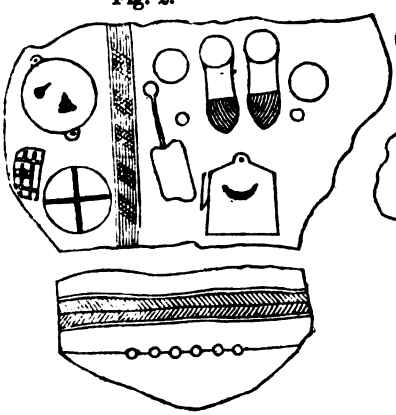

Fig. 5.

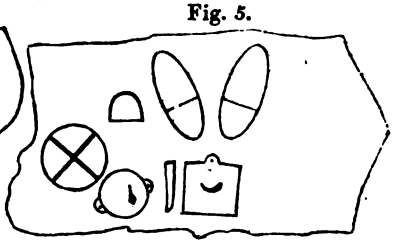

Fig. 3.

Fig 4.

a drawing of it. Its shape appears to have originally much resembled that of the former. Its present perpendicular height is seven inches, the diameter of the greater end is eleven, and that of the small end nine. Like the former it has a hole in the side near to the base, and reaching about three nches inwards. It has also a cavity at the top, and a perforation extending from the cavity to the bottom. The perforation in this stone is four

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inches in depth, exactly double the depth of the perforation on the other.

The above described monument was allowed to remain for ten days in its original form for public inspection, but as some people, out of mischief, or from an expectation of finding hidden treasure, were beginning to lift and injure some of the stones, and as no method of preserving them in safety in their original situation could be easily adopted, it was considered necessary to remove them. They were taken up in presence of a concourse of people who had assembled to gratify their curiosity, when underneath the carved stone, marked fig. 2. were found burned human bones and charcoal. A considerable quantity of the ashes I have retained in my possession. George Tod, Esq. of Luthrie, on whose property these ancient circles were discovered, has with much civility presented them to me, and they are now placed precisely in their original form in a wood behind the manse, a good subject for the examination of the antiquary.

It were much to be wished, that, of those ancient monuments which are occasionally discovered in various parts of the country, an accurate drawing, as well as a correct description, were made up, and given to the public, instead of allowing them, as frequently happens, to be destroyed, or consigned to oblivion. By this means the curiosity of many would be gratified, a spirit of inquiry would be excited, and much additional light might naturally be expected to be thrown over a subject, at present obscure, but highly interesting. It is from a desire of this nature, Mr Editor, that I have been induced to lay before you these particulars with regard to the ancient circles above described. With my very limited knowledge of the subject, I am far from presuming to offer any decided opinion, either as to their origin, or the use to which they were applied. I have given a fair statement of facts, and leave it to those versed in antiquities to draw the conclusion for themselves. It might appear odd, however, in a popular work of this nature, were I not to observe to the general reader, that, from Toland's History of the Druids, and the Caledonia of Chalmers, one may naturally be led to infer, that the above described monuments were Druidical temples, or oratories,—that the excavated stones were for containing holy water, which the Druids, as well as the Greeks, the Jews, and other ancient nations, were accustomed to use, —and that the burned human bones (which were found under the stone marked fig. 2.) were the remains of the sacrifices here offered. If these ancient monuments were Druidical temples, they were no doubt much smaller than those temples of the Druids, of which descriptions are generally given; but we are informed by Toland, (in his History of the Druids, p. 134, Huddleston's edition, Montrose, 1814,) that "the temples of the Druids are circles of obelisks, or erect stones, some larger, some narrower, (as in all other edifices,) some more, and some less magnificent." Huddleston mentions, in his notes upon the same work, p. 322, "that from the *small size* of many of the Druidical temples, it is probable the multitude were never admitted within the circle of erect stones, but stood in the outer court, betwixt the circle and the surrounding grove." And Chalmers observes, "that the number and variety of the Druid remains in North Britain are almost endless." "Oratories," he says, p. 71, "existed among the earliest people. These ancient places of worship consisted of plots of ground, which, as they were enclosed, and open above, were appropriated to the public worship of families and villages."

As to two temples being found near each other, Toland and other writers mention the circumstance as quite common. Chalmers, in his Caledonia, (London edition, 1807,) speaking of Druidical circles, says, "Those enclosures are sometimes formed of a single circle, and often of double and treble concentric circles of upright stones. In general, only one or two of those enclosures are seen in one place; but in many districts of North Britain, there are found three, four, and even more, in the same vicinity." Huddleston, p. 305, accounts for two temples being found near each other, as well as their being in a direction from east to west, in the following manner, that, "as the Druids acted in the double capacity of priests and civil magistrates, it was naturally to be expected, that they would be provided with a judicial, as well as a re-

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ligious circle. Whoever minutely examines the Druidical circles, will find this distinction well founded. The sun (Beal, or Bealan) was the principal Celtic deity, and the east, or sun rising, the most honourable point. The religious circle occupied this honourable position, and the judicial one stood commonly due west of it. The former was generally larger and more magnificent than the latter."—"Though the judicial circle differed nothing in the exterior from the temple," he says, "in the interior, it differed widely." Perhaps, from the similarity of the monuments, in the present instance, to each other, one might be led to conclude, that the purpose intended for both was the same.

As to the temples being uncovered, Chalmers says, p. 70, "The places of the Druid worship continued uncovered until the dark epoch of Druid dissolution."

The Druids seem to have paid much attention to the numbers of erect stones which they placed in their circles, "and it is supposed," says Huddleston, "from the circles consisting of seven, twelve, or nineteen erect stones, that they had their respective astronomical references to the number of days in the week, the signs in the zodiac, or the cycle of the moon." The number in the circles above described, as already observed, correspond to the number of points in the compass. As to the position of the stones with regard to each other, Toland says, p. 135, "that in some temples they stand close together," as in the present case, "but in most separate and equidistant." Of the excavated stones he observes, page 150, that "many of them have a cavity capable of holding a pint, and sometimes more, with a channel or groove about an inch deep, reaching from the hollow place to the ground;" and Huddleston mentions, page 323, "that this cavity on the top of one of the stones in the Druidical temples, has often been noticed. It was intended to catch the dew or rain pure from heaven. The Druids had their holy water and holy fire as well as the Jews and other nations."—"Whether this cavity," he adds in the following page, "was used by the Druids to catch the reflection of the heavenly bodies, I shall not pretend to determine. But from the perforation reaching from the cavity to the bottom of the pillar, whereby the water could be drawn off at pleasure, it is evident its principal end was to supply them with holy water pure from heaven." From the ashes found under the figured stone No. 2. it is natural to infer that sacrifices were here made. That the Druids were accustomed to offer human sacrifices, Pliny, Tacitus, and Cæsar, abundantly confirm. *

In the prefixed drawing, fig. 1. the stones composing the circle are represented as they appear on their inner surface. This method was adopted for the purpose of exhibiting their relative height and the outline of their summit. Figs. 2. and 3. are magnified drawings of the carved stones beside the central pillar. Fig. 4. is a drawing of one of the excavated stones found at a short distance from this edifice; and fig. 5. is a representation of the only remaining carved stone discovered last year in the monument to the westward. With every wish for the success of your valuable Magazine, I am your most obedient servant,

ALEX. LAWSON.

Manse of Creich,
Nov. 11, 1817.

* The fact mentioned by our respectable correspondent in this and the preceding page, of burned human bones having been found beneath one of the stones of this circle, certainly tends to corroborate his opinion, that it had formerly been a Druidical Temple. At the same time, we apprehend the origin and use of what are commonly called Druidical circles, is still a matter involved in great obscurity, notwithstanding all that Toland, Huddleston, and Chalmers, have done to illustrate the subject. Circles of stones, similar to those here mentioned, have been found in many countries where neither Druids nor Celts are suspected to have ever penetrated, and where systems of religion and national customs entirely different are known to have prevailed. Even in our own country, a remarkable evidence of this still exists. One of the stones of a great "*Druid Circle*" in Orkney, has a large iron ring fixed into it, which is called by the common people the *Ring of Odin*. In former times, according to the tradition of the natives, all important treaties and engagements were ratified among their ancestors, by joining hands through this ring; and even at the present day, lovers still continue to plight their troth, and the peasantry to pledge their bargains, by the same extraordinary sanction.—*Edit.*

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ON THE LAYING OUT OF PLEASURE GROUNDS IN SCOTLAND.

MR EDITOR,

ALLOW me to suggest as a fit subject for occasional papers in your Magazine, the history of the art of laying out grounds in Scotland connected or not, according to the information of the party, with the history of architecture. I do not know any subject equally interesting to country gentlemen, of which so little is known. We have in various works (among which ranks first that of H. Walpole) the history of gardening in England—and in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, that of Ireland; but of those who planted the principal avenues and clumps in Scotland, the public know nothing.

Chattelherault at Hamilton, it is said, was laid out from a design by the famous *Le Notre*, and the Earl of Eglinton's park near Irvine, by the celebrated Brown. Sir William Chambers built Duddingston-house, and the grounds at Hatton, it is supposed, were laid out by London and Wise in 1715. Switzer, Batty, Langley, and Laurence, state in their works, that they were employed in Scotland. Can any of your readers refer to places laid out by them? It is probable also, that Bridgeman, Plaw, James, Miller, and other artists, went occasionally to that quarter; and doubtless, many of your readers may recollect of hearing these and other names mentioned by their fathers in their younger years, as having given plans at such and such places. Who did the proprietor of Culzean Castle employ, after his singularly picturesque villa was finished by the late Mr Adams? Who planted the avenue of lime trees at Taymouth? or the masses at Inverary? The Earl of Stair's place near Maybole, Mr Hogg's of Newliston, Dalkeith-house, Saltonhall, Woodhouselee, North-Berwick-house, and numerous other old places, which I cannot at this moment recollect, are worthy of historical inquiry. And when and where did the modern system of laying out grounds first make its appearance in Scotland? Is it certain that Brown was ever in that country, or any of his immediate pupils? But I need not add more; for I trust some patriotic individual of local knowledge and extensive acquaintance, and, if possible, a sexagenarian, will take up the subject, and pursue it from the earliest records to the present time. In doing so, he will perform a pleasing service to a number of your readers, and to none more than to, Sir, yours, &c. L.

London, Oct. 20, 1817.

REMARKS ON GREEK AND FRENCH TRAGEDY.—COMPARISON OF THE HIPPOLYTUS OF EURIPIDES WITH THE PHEDRE OF RACINE.

IT may be safely asserted, that there exists little original genius in the mind in which there is a proneness to imitation. This divine energy sees all Nature with its own eyes, and clothes all objects in its own colours, and gives utterance to all its imaginations in the music of its own voice. All poets, since the world began, have laboured in the same great storehouse, and on the same elements; yet no two of them worthy of the name have ever produced the same results. They look alike on the rivers, and the lakes, and the oceans, and the forests, and the vallies, and the mountains: but the pictures which they have drawn of them are various as the lights and shades that fall upon them, and give them every moment a new character. They have all listened to the billows, and the cataracts, and the winds, and the thunders: but these have spoken to each a peculiar language. They have all gazed on the sun, and the moon, and the stars: but these have shed on each a brighter or a darker ray, modified by the acuteness of his own intellectual organs. They have all cast their vision inward on the world of spirit: but the views they have given of it are diversified as the play of the passions and the wanderings of thought. It is, indeed, as unlikely that any man who has not read Nature in books, should coincide with the ideas and expressions of another, as that, at any two moments of time while the wind blows, the heavens should exhibit the same forms, and arrangements, and tints of the clouds. If men would be contented to paint Nature as they themselves see it, and to express their own feelings in the simplest way, they might write with various degrees of excellence; but their compositions would bear the stamp of individuality as certainly as

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the features of their face, and we should not be doomed to travel through a hundred volumes of the same dull monotony of common-place.

Imagination, which, more than all the other powers of the mind, is the heritage that Nature has conferred on the poet, is a faculty wholly creative, and in proportion to its activity and comprehension, he must take his place among the worthies of the past ages. It cannot be controlled to trace the beaten path, but loves to deviate into the wildernesses of Nature, unexplored even in thought by other men, and with an originality of range, to collect its materials from the unfrequented spaces of earth, and sea, and sky. It delights in its own inventions, noting, even in the simplest floweret of the spring, beauties and properties unseen by others, and so lights the visible universe by the effulgence of its own eye, that it may be said to walk in glory and in majesty in the radiance of suns, and moons, and stars, of its own creation.

I have been led into this train of reflection by the effect which the imitation of the ancients has had on modern literature, as also that which has been produced among themselves. The literature of Rome is inferior to that of Greece, only, perhaps, because it was borrowed. Virgil has drawn the plan of the Æneid, and many individual passages, from Homer, and falls infinitely beneath him in all the qualities of the epic. His characters, with the single exception of Dido, compared to the portraits which, on the glorious canvas of Homer, start into life in all the colouring, and costume, and beauty, and truth of Nature, are stiff, and formal, and lifeless as the figures on a Chinese screen, and, instead of the incidents of the Greek bard, which are great, and diversified, and interesting as those that occur in the wide range of society, his narrative is cold, and slow, and delightless. Many of the flowers which he transplanted from Homer, and which were by him raised from celestial seeds, and watered by celestial dews, have refused to take root, and withered and languished in the foreign soil. The reason is, that Homer wrote an epic poem from the fulness, and vastness, and propelling energies of his own soul, which had been in his infancy fired by the marvellous legends of the Trojan war: Virgil wrote only because Homer had written before him. If critical justice, then, compel us to pronounce that poem a failure, on which such a genius as Virgil bestowed so much time, and which he laboured with so much care, what is to be the fortune of the works of the servile multitude of imitators? We must remember, besides, that the Greeks and Romans were kindred nations; their languages, and laws, and manners, and government, and religion, were similar; and, if it were possible that imitation in poetry could ever succeed, among them every thing was favourable to it; yet it has impressed a secondary character on almost the whole literature of Rome. We might have expected, that, with this warning before their eyes, the moderns would have considered success in the same path hopeless; for, between them and the ancients, the wall of partition is altogether impassable.

If there were no other obstacle, the mythology of the Greeks and Romans were alone sufficient to preclude the possibility of a successful imitation of their writings on the part of the moderns. That singular system which is most favourable to poetry, and is indeed itself little else than the poetry of the heavens and the earth, is inwoven with the whole of the poetry of the ancients, but is altogether inadmissible into that of the moderns. The fountains and the forests, and the skies and the oceans, were peopled with divinities, who had a firm hold of the belief, and a strong influence on the actions of mankind. The mariner and the hunter, and the warrior and the poet, knelt each at the shrine of his respective deity, from whom he expected protection, or success, or inspiration. The introduction of these beings gives rise to many of the most beautiful visions of the poetry of the ancients, but nothing can be so frigid or lifeless as the Apollos and Dianas of modern poetry.

For literature to thrive in a country, or to attain to any degree of strength and vigour, it must be indigenous in the soil, and, like the oak or the cedar that flourishes on its mountains, and the rose or the flowering shrub that blooms in its vallies, it must shoot into sublimity and luxuriate in beauty, watered by its na-

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tive dews, and cherished by its native suns; but imitation has to a certain extent mildewed the finest productions of the moderns. Even our own literature, unquestionably the most original in Europe, has suffered from the blight; and there is reason to believe, that Paradise Lost would have been a better poem if Milton had never read Homer. If Britain had been left to the untutored efforts of her own mighty genius, she would have been without a rival in the literature of the world; but in many cases she can claim only a second place, because she has stooped to imitation. It is worthy of notice, that some of our noblest poets are men who had not been taught in our schools to sing a bad imitation of the song of the ancients, but by their native notes have risen from the cottage into glory and preeminence, as the lark springs from her lowly seat to delight the heavens and the earth by her melody. This subject might furnish matter for many essays, and may perhaps be reverted to on some future occasion; at present it is my object to apply these cursory hints to the French Tragedy, and chiefly the celebrated Phedre of Racine, a play borrowed from the Hippolytus of Euripides, which I am now to analyze.

Phædra, the wife of Theseus, king of Athens, conceived for Hippolytus, his son by a former marriage, a passion which she had struggled in vain to conquer; and long pined under its effects. The decline of her health and the dejection of her mind did not escape the observation of an old and confidential servant, to whom, after much solicitation, she revealed the cause of her distress. This woman imprudently, and contrary to the commands of her mistress, disclosed the secret to Hippolytus, who was struck with horror at the very idea. He was a young man of a lofty mind and a spotless virtue, who spent much of his time in the forests in the exercises of hunting, as the best preparation for the toils and dangers of war; a devout worshipper of Diana, and averse to Venus, who, to be avenged on him for the neglect of her altars, inspired his stepmother with this unnatural passion. Her mind was so deeply wounded by the disclosure, that she put an end to her life, and left a writing, in which she accused Hippolytus of an attempt to dishonour his father's bed. Theseus, who had been absent during these transactions, returned immediately after the death of Phædra, and found the fatal paper, by which he was so enraged, that he prayed to Neptune, who had promised to grant him any request that he should ask, that he would destroy his unnatural son, and immediately ordered him into banishment. When Phædra's servant disclosed to Hippolytus the passion of her mistress, she bound him by an oath never to reveal the secret, and he heard the reproaches of his father without even insinuating the guilt of the queen. He set out with the design of quitting his native country, and on the way a monster arose out of the ocean, and so terrified the horses, that they dashed the chariot in pieces, and he was brought upon the stage terribly mangled by the fall. Diana appeared and removed all suspicion of guilt from the character of her votary, who pardoned his father and died.

Venus, in the first scene, delivers a prologue, in which she explains the subject of the play, and her determination to punish Hippolytus for his contempt of her altars. She is succeeded by Hippolytus bearing a garland to hang on the shrine of Diana.

H. Queen of the forest, graciously receive
The garland I have cropt from the fresh meadows,—
Deep solitudes, where shepherd never fed
His wandering flocks, and the scythe never came,
Alone the wild bee sips the honey flowers,
And chastity sits crowned among the dews,
The unholy may not enter thy recesses,
Thy wildernesses and thy awful shades;
But those in whose pure bosom Nature planted
The love of temperance, are welcome there.
Oh! gracious goddess, from my hands receive
This virgin garland for thy golden hair.
I feel thy presence, and I hear thy voice,
And answer thee, although thy face I see not.
Oh! mistress, grant that I may end my life
As it began, and never be the slave
Of Venus.

In the next scene, Phædra appears sick and peevish, accompanied by an aged nurse.

N. Sorrow and pain is man's inheritance;

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What shall I do, what shall I leave undone?
Dear lady, look upon the sun's bright rays,
The narrow chamber now confines thee not,
And thou mayst freely breathe the cooling air:
Now didst thou only talk of coming hither,
Now thou art here, and soon wilt seek the palace.
Thou still desirest change, and nought delights thee;
And still thou fliest from that which thou possessest.
But thy disease is seated in the mind,
And neither time nor circumstance can aid thee.
Calamity makes up the sum of life,
And men must know no pause from pain and sorrow;
And yet there is a place of refuge for him,
A region of repose and happiness,—
A home out-shining far the land we know,
But it is hid in darkness and in clouds;
And thus we cling to life and all the woes
Which are our portion here, because we know them;
But from that peaceful and that happy land
We are deterred by fables.

P. Support me gently, raise my weary head,
My joints are loosened, and I faint with pain;
Remove the fillet bound around my locks,
And let them loosely flow upon my shoulders.
Oh! might I quench my burning thirst with waters
That drop as pure as dew from the fresh fountains,
And rest me under the delightful shade
Of a tall poplar, in the leafy grove.

N. Lady, why speakest thou thus? thy words are wild.

P. Oh! send me to the mountains, to the woods,
—The groves of pine,—where the staunch hounds pursue
The dapple hinds; yes! by the gods, I love
To cheer the chasing dogs with loud halloo,
And launch, with steady aim, the hunter's spear.

N. My child, what aileth thee, why speakest thou thus?
Say, what hast thou to do with the fleet dogs?
Why seek'st thou waters from the forest fountains?
Beside the palace is a sloping hill
Where thou mayst quench thy thirst with cooling waters.

P. Diana, mistress of the sacred lake,
And of the groves, where sounding hoofs are heard,
Oh! were I in thy plains to tame the steeds.

N. What mean thy words? they are most strange, my daughter.
Now thou desirest the mountains and the chace,
And now to rein the fiery steed and fly
Along the dusty plain; it well might claim
An oracle to tell what god distracts thee,
And leads thy mind astray from reason's path.

P. Unhappy that I am, what have I done?
From wisdom's ways, ah! whither have I wandered?
Have I deserved the vengeance of the gods,
That I should fall so low? has reason lost
My mind's dominion? is there happiness
Again on earth for such a wretch as me?
Oh! veil my head,—hide me from every eye,—
I blush for the wild words that I have spoken;
"My tears will flow,—my face is turned to shame."

After some conversation between the Chorus and the Nurse, in which they bewail the state of Phædra, and hazard conjectures as to its cause, she again enters. The nurse implores her by all the tenderness and confidence with which she had ever treated her, to reveal the true cause of her sorrow. She with difficulty prevails, and the queen alludes to her passion for Hippolytus in such a way as that the whole truth flashes on her mind. The dialogue continues, but the language of Phædra is more sententious and less passionate than we might expect in such a situation. She is, indeed, still supporting the conflict with her own mind, and when she does become more animated, her feelings are all on the side of virtue.

P. I hate the fair outside and hollow heart
Of those who worship virtue in their words,
And yet in secret act dishonourably;
Who to their husbands seem all purity,
But veiled by night's black mantle dare such deeds,
As might give voices to the very walls
To speak aloud and tell of mysteries;
Oh! sooner may I die, than bring disgrace
Upon my husband and my happy children.
Yes! they shall flourish free from infamy,
Nor be dishonoured by a mother's shame.
The knowledge of a guilty parent's crimes
Binds up the tongue, and blunts the edge of virtue.

The nurse endeavours to persuade her that there was nothing uncommon,

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much less criminal, in her case, for that Venus was sovereign of the earth, the ocean, and the sky, and that even the Gods acknowledged her sway, but that if she would follow her advice, a remedy might still be devised. Hippolytus is informed, by the nurse, of the love of Phædra, who, hurried on by shame and despair, dies by her own hands. Meanwhile Theseus arrives, and finds the letter already mentioned, and, in the paroxysm of his grief and rage, meets Hippolytus, whom, in the bitterness of his spirit, he curses, and orders into banishment. He defends himself from the charge by his known character, but the nurse, having bound him by an oath of secrecy, he does not even insinuate the guilt of Phædra. He quits the stage with these words:

H. Wretch that I am, my doom is fix'd for ever.
Oh! virgin huntress, whose abodes I love
More than the shrines of all the other Gods,
I must relinquish Athens and its glory.
Oh! ye delightful vallies of Trezené,
Where I have spent the golden hours of youth,
Farewell, I ne'er must look on you again;
Ye young companions of my happier days,
Speak consolation to me, and conduct me
From forth this land.

A messenger arrives, and informs Theseus of the fatal accident which had befallen his son:

M. We wept, as we prepared our master's steeds
On the sea beach, washed by the rolling waves;
For we had heard the gallant prince was doom'd,
By thy decree, to quit his native land,
An exile, never more to see his country;
And soon he came, the tidings to confirm,
And he was beautiful amid his sorrow,
And melody was in his words of woe;
And with him came a multitude of youths
Of his own age, whose souls were knit to his
By the indissoluble bonds of friendship;
And of their weeping there had been no end,
Had not he cried, My friends, why stand we here?
I must obey the orders of my father.
Then lifting up his hands to heaven, he cried,
Oh! Jove, if I am guilty, let me perish;
But if I die or live, convince my father
That I am innocent, and he has wrong'd me.

In a beautiful description, the messenger finishes the narrative. Hippolytus is brought upon the stage, and his innocence is established by the intervention of Diana, who reconciles him to his father.

T. For me there is no more delight in life.
H. For thee I sorrow, and not for myself.
T. Oh! would that I had died instead of thee.
H. Father, how cruel are the gifts of Neptune.
T. Oh! that my tongue had not pronounced the prayer;
The Gods combined against me to deceive me.
H. The shades of death o'erspread my feeble eyes.
T. My son, how wretched thou wilt leave thy father.
H. The gates of death are open to receive me.
T. Oh! say thou dost acquit me of thy death.
H. I do acquit thee,—thou art innocent.
T. How generous thou art to me, my son.
H. I die, and fare thee well for ever, father.
T. Oh! glorious Athens, what a heavy loss
Hast thou sustained in this illustrious man;
Oh! woe is me.

This play is peculiar among the Greek tragedies, as being founded on love; but the love of Phædra is a guilty passion, and it is by her generous struggle to conquer it, and by those involuntary and enthusiastic bursts of nature in which she transports herself, in imagination, to the favourite haunts of the object of her idolatry, and by the atonement she makes in preferring death to shame, that Euripides has rendered her character so greatly interesting. A dramatic writer among ourselves has fallen into the same train of feeling, when he makes one of his personages, in very similar circumstances, beautifully exclaim,

Oh! that I were on the hill side with Bertram.

I shall now consider the metamorphosis of this play by a French poet. In the original, every thing is Greek; a Greek legend, Greek customs, Greek characters, Greek mythology, and pure Attic taste; but there is reason to fear that the Frenchman has mingled a little of the seasoning of his coun-

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try with the simple viands of Greece. He tells us, in a preface to his play, that the ancients blamed the character of Hippolytus as being too free from the weaknesses incident to our nature. They may have done so, and they may have been wrong. No very attentive perusal of this play will convince us, that much of its pathos arises from the purity of his manners, and the lofty moral tone of his mind. He was simply a young man of a cultivated taste, addicted to the study of philosophy, and fond of field sports;—whose bosom had not hitherto felt the passion of love, and who, therefore, fancied it a weakness to which he was superior. It was certainly not the rigour of virtue to receive, with indignation, the advances of a woman whom he had every reason to believe a wanton, who wished to seduce him into an unnatural crime; and, even in the heat of his resentment, to indulge in an invective against the whole sex; for whatever the ancients may have said, or Racine may have supposed, this is all that appears in the play. But, by way of endowing him with more amiable and more interesting qualities, he makes him a whining lover, who has long entertained an involuntary and a hopeless passion for Aricie, a new personage whom he has introduced for this purpose, and thus ruins the whole beauty and integrity of the creation of Euripides. In order to diminish the guilt of Phædra, he has made another change in propagating a report of the death of Theseus, in which she believed. This was altogether unnecessary. In the Greek play, her love is a divine infliction, and even though that idea could not be introduced into a modern tragedy, the sentiment is involuntary, and her heart and her actions are alike pure. She sees her danger, and laments it, and is long the martyr of concealment. The interest of the piece is in the struggle betwixt love and duty in her mind; and, when she can no longer maintain the combat, she withdraws from it by a voluntary death. This is as tragical as possible, and it was certainly an extraordinary way of removing the horror of guilt, and of heightening pathos, to represent her as making a declaration of love to a son immediately after the death of his father, who was her own husband. This was a refinement that could only have entered into the head of a Frenchman of the age of Lewis the Fourteenth. The only crime of which she is guilty in Euripides, is the false accusation of an innocent man by her last act, but to this she is led by the fear of her name being sullied after death by his testimony against her. Racine has put the accusation into the mouth of the nurse, and says, "J'ai crû que la calomnie avoit quelque chose de trop bas et de trop noir pour la mettre dans la bouche d'une princesse. Cette bassesse m'a paru plus convenable à une nourrice." It was likely enough that such trash as this should issue from the courtly sycophants of that age. The truth is, that, in such cases, princes and princesses are mere men and women; and there is even reason to believe that the tragic writers have generally chosen the palace as the scene of their actions, only because it has been the theatre of great crimes, more frequently than the dwellings of humbler men; but he has been guilty of a greater violation of nature in making her accuse herself, in the end of the play, which is inconsistent with the whole conception of her character. He has, besides, omitted the scene of reconciliation, one of the most tender in the play, and has allowed Hippolytus to die suspected of a revolting crime, more intolerable to such a mind than a thousand deaths. Such are the changes Racine has made on the fable, and the reader may judge if they are improvements.

The author has said, "Je n'ai pas laissé d'enrichir ma piéce de tout ce qui m'a paru le plus éclatant dans la sienne." I shall examine how far this promise is fulfilled. One of the most brilliant passages in the Greek play, is that in which the young hunter returns from the chace, singing the praises of Diana, and bearing a garland to offer at her shrine. In this description, we feel the inspiration of the silence, and solitude, and darkness of the groves, and tread among flowers visited only by the wing of the wild bee, and have our souls purified by the chastity of the dews. These are the genuine themes of poetry. We have a similar passage in a celebrated work, of such beauty, that I cannot resist the temptation of quoting it.

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Hie away, hie away,
Over bank and over brae,
Where the copsewood is the greenest,
Where the fountains glisten sheenest,
Where the lady-fern grows strongest,
Where the morning dew lies longest,
Where the black-cock sweetest sips it,
Where the fairy latest trips it;
Hie to haunts right seldom seen,
Lovely, lonesome, cool, and green,
Over bank and over brae,
Hie away, hie away.

It is probable, that, at the moment of composition, the Scottish minstrel did not think of the lines of Euripides, or perhaps was not aware of their existence, yet, with all his well earned fame, he will not blush at having accidentally fallen into the track of such a man. For these refreshing views of nature, to which the poet's mind is ever ready to escape from the crowds and constraints of the city, Racine has substituted a conversation between Hippolytus and a friend, in which he professes a determination to go in search of his father, who had been long absent from his country; but it soon appears that his object is to shun the fascination of a young princess, for whom, in the style of true French gallantry, il brule:

Je fuis, je l'avoûerai, cette jeune Aricie.

In the same style he addresses the lady:—

Il faut vous informer
D'un secret que mon cœur ne peut plus renfermer;
Vous voyez devant vous un prince deplorable.

And, again,—

Mes seuls gemissements font retentir les bois,
Et mes coursiers oisifs ont oublié ma voix.

There was certainly nothing to prevent Racine from writing so; he hung his reputation as a poet on the risk; but he had no right to commit murder on the fine inventions and glorious imaginations of Euripides, and to give to the sickly bantling of his own fantastic brain the name of the high-minded Hippolytus. Nor has he been more fortunate in the scene which he has substituted for that in which Phædra first appears in the Greek play, where the genius of Euripides has blended the enthusiasm of love with its concealment, and, by a few happy touches, brought before the mind, in the richness of Nature, the skies, and the woodlands, and the mountains of Greece.

Dieux! que ne suis je assise à l'ombre des forets.

This is one of the few poetical lines in the French play, because it is literally taken from the Greek; but, the moment the poet has got into a train of true feeling and genuine poetry, by a strange infatuation he quits it, and degenerates into such ravings as—

De l'amour j'ai toutes les fureurs.

Yes! the delicate-minded, but unfortunate, Phædra, who would suffer death rather than breathe her passion into the ear of any one living, discloses the secret of her soul to Hippolytus himself. In a conversation, in which he endeavours to console her for the death of Theseus, he says,—

Peut-être votre epoux voit encore le jour.

But nothing was further from her wishes; and she replies,—

On ne voit point deux fois les rivages des morts.
Que dis-je? il n'est point mort, puisque il respire en vous.
—Connois donc Phedre et toute sa fureur.
Je t'aime,
J'ai langui, j'ai seché, dans les feux, dans les larmes.

This would have been food for the woman-hate of Hippolytus indeed; but the unwelcome husband starts up, and spoils the intrigue. Theseus is astonished at the confusion and embarrassment of her manner, and the coldness of his son.

Que vois-je? quelle horreur dans ces lieux repandues
Fait fuir devant mes yeux ma famille eperdue.

The nurse then clears up the mystery, by the accusation of Hippolytus, and, as in the Greek play, the father prays to Neptune to inflict vengeance on the son.

Et toi Neptune,
Je t'implore aujourdhui, venge un malheureux pere.

The young man protests his innocence in vain.

Le jour n'est pas plus pur que le fond de mon cœur.

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And, when driven to extremity, in order to remove all suspicion of love for Phædra, he confesses his secret passion for Aricie, though he knew she was of a race hated by his father.

Je l'adorai, et mon ame à vos ordres rebelle,
Ne peut ni soupirer ni bruler que pour elle.

But Theseus, who considers this a mere artifice, remains inexorable. Phædra intercedes for him with her husband; and it is not enough for Racine to represent her as degrading herself by the declaration of her love, he must likewise find a rival for her; and, instead of listening to her solicitations, he tells her,—

Il soutient qu'Aricie a son cœur, a sa foi,
Qu'il aime.

And she thus expresses her feelings to the nurse:—

Ænone, qui l'eut crut! j'avois une rivale,
Le tigre que jamais je n'abordai sans crainte,
Soumis, apprivoisé, reconnait une vainqueur,
Aricie a trouvé le chemin de son cœur.

Hippolytus, before his departure, has a tender interview with Aricie, whom he urges to an elopement. She is alarmed, no doubt.

A. Mais vous m'aimez, Seigneur, et ma gloire alarmée.

But he calms her fears,

Non, non, j'ai trop de soin de votre renommée;

adding, that there was a temple where mortals did not dare to commit perjury; that they would go there and pledge their mutual faith.

Est un temple sacré, formidable aux parjures,
Des dieux les plus sacrés j'attesterai le nom,
Et la chaste Diane et l'auguste Junon,
Et tous les dieux enfin, temoins de mes tendresses,
Garantiront la foi de mes saintes promesses.

No novel writer ever cooked up Gretna-Green and the blacksmith in more delightful style. Oh! genius of Euripides, couldst thou have foreseen this indignity! But the happy lovers are interrupted by the entrance of Theseus, who is the grand Marplot of the play.

The death of Hippolytus is taken from Euripides in all its circumstances. This is one of the few passages which Racine has not changed, and it is rather extraordinary that he should have blundered alike in his copy and his changes. The story of the sea-monster raised by Neptune in answer to the prayers of Theseus, is tolerable in Euripides, because it was within the superstitious belief of the country; but surely a Christian poet might have devised simpler means of overturning a chariot than the agency of a heathen god. Phædra takes poison, and in her last moments acquits Hippolytus by the confession of her own guilt.

Such is the far famed *Phedre*, the glory of the French stage. The reputation which this tragedy has obtained in France, would almost tempt us to believe that there was one standard of nature there, and another in England and Greece. It is fortunate, however, that there are principles in which the majority of mankind are agreed, by which we may judge of the accidental tastes and false refinements of any age or country. To this test it is my purpose to bring this play; and the poetry of the age of Lewis XIV., which is considered by the French themselves as the golden age of their literature—on the productions of which all their poetry since has been modelled. Never was there an age, perhaps, in which any people had deviated further from the simplicity of nature, and, of course, in which poetry was more unlikely to thrive. In that reign, every thing appears in a state of monstrous distortion. All the moral feelings were sophisticated and corrupted, and the simple pleasures of nature were neglected by the minions of a profligate court, who preferred the cheek plastered with rouge to the fresh bloom of youth and beauty, and the tinsel of the royal drawing-room, to the glorious garniture of heaven and earth, and degraded the dignity of man into the grimaces of a monkey. Among them there was nothing of friendship but the smile; and the pure fountains of love and domestic affection were poisoned by an unblushing gallantry that made a jest of fidelity and the union of congenial hearts; nor were the well-heads of virtue alone tainted,—the polluted waters overflowed the land, and corrupted the whole mass of society. In such a state of things, it would

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be vain to look for true taste. In other countries, courtiers have been contented to walk abroad and enjoy the voice of the muse in her native element, amid the beauties, or sublimities, or solitudes of nature; in France alone, she has been compelled to enter the palace, (where she ought never to have appeared but armed with whips and scorpions,) tricked up in the garb of a court wanton, with her golden tresses bedaubed with powder, and the celestial tints of her countenance overlaid with "paint an inch thick;" and the consequence has been, that the Divinity has fled in indignation, and left an incubus in her place.

This artificial people seem to have wanted the very elements of the poetical character, simplicity, and sincerity, and profound feeling, and enthusiasm, and the spontaneous kindling of delight, from the great or the lovely in the various shows of external nature. With them green fields, and leafy forests, and pure waters, and bright skies, are themes unworthy of poetry. They have wilfully shut their eyes on the windows of heaven, and denied themselves what other poets have considered their most noble privilege, the unlimited range of the universe. They have confined themselves to the human passions and their consequences upon human character; and as they have neglected one wide field of nature, so in that which they have selected they have forsaken the right path.

A French author has said that his countrymen have not "la tête epique;" he might have added, with equal justice, "l'imagination poetique;" and it has been lately acknowledged by a French lady, of deserved celebrity, that the prose writers of France are more poetical than the poets themselves. On another occasion, we may consider the poetry of their prose, and perhaps discover that they have as little to boast of here. If we examine their poetry by the standard of nature, as it has existed in all ages, from the times of Homer downwards, we shall find that it is as artificial and fantastic as their character. They are, in truth, an imaginationless race, but in proportion to their deficiency in all the qualities requisite to form the poetical character are their vanity and conceit. Their very language is unpoetical, being much better fitted for the smartness of an epigram, than the lofty imaginations of an enthusiastic mind, or the deep feelings of the heart; and it may be safely asserted, that if the writings of Homer, and Shakespear, and Milton, and Spencer, are poetry, we look in vain for any thing similar in France, to which we should give the name. Such as it is we shall examine it, and the French themselves will not say that we treat them unfairly, if we rest their pretensions to it on the Phedre.

The structure of their verse is like every thing else, the most artificial and constrained that ever was invented. The ear is fatigued, and the mind disgusted by the constant recurrence of rhyme in a conversation poem, and there is a total want of the variety of pauses and cadences on which all the music of rythmical language depends. Intense feeling rejects a multitude of words, and the noblest thoughts are always expressed in the simplest language; but, with the French, feeling degenerates into sentimental declamation, and greatness into inflation. We have seen how the beautiful simplicity of the Greek characters is ruined by the meretricious refinement of the French poet, and equally so are the sentiments that they utter, which, whether they be tender or sublime, are always true to nature. Instead of the elevation of soul with which Euripides has inspired his hero, and the rich and refreshing scenes with which he has surrounded his path, we have such lines as

Mais que sert d'affecter un superbe discours.
Avouez le, tout change, et depuis quelques jours,
On vous voit moins souvent, orgueilleux et sauvage,
Tantôt faire voler un char sur le rivage,
Tantôt savant dans l'art par Neptune inventé,
Rendre docile au frein une coursier indompté,
Les forets de nos cris moins souvent retentissent,
Chargés d'un feu secret vos yeux s'appesantissent,
Il n'en faut point douter vous aimez, vous brulez,
Vous perissez d'un mal qui vous dissimulez.

When the characters ought to speak the language of the passion, under the

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influence of which they are, contrary to the uniform operations of the mind, they indulge in long descriptions of it. Thus Phedre,

Ma blessure trop vive aussitot a saigné,
Ce n'est plus une ardeur dans mes veines cachée,
C'est Venus tout entiere à sa proie attachée,
J'ai conçu pour mon crime une juste terreur,
J'ai pris la vie en haine, et ma flamme en horreur,
Je voulois en mourant prendre soin de ma gloire,
Et derober au jour une flamme si noire.

It is worth while to analyse this extraordinary passage, in which "Love is an wound," "an ardour concealed in the veins," "Venus, like a bloodhound, lapping the blood of her victim," "a crime of which she has a just terror," "a flame which she has in horror," "a dark flame." In the name of Shakespear and of Nature, is this poetry? On receiving the news of the death of Theseus, the nurse tells Phedre

Votre flamme devient une flamme ordinaire,
Thesée en expirant vient de rompre les nœuds,
Qui faisoient tout le crime et l'horreur de vos feux,
Hyppolite pour vous devient moins redoutable,
Et vous pouvez le voir sans vous rendre coupable.

This is French morality expressed with all the graces of French poetry! In like manner, Hippolytus describes his passion for Aricie to the lady herself.

Un moment a vaincu mon audace impudente,
Cette ame si superbe est enfin dependente,
Depuis pres de six mois, honteux, desesperé,
Portant partout le trait dont je suis dechiré,
Contre vous, contre moi, vainement je m' eprouve;
Presente, je vous fuis; absente, je vous trouve;
Dans le fond des forets votre image me suit;
La lumiere du jour, les ombre de la nuit,
Tout retrace á mes yeux les charmes qui j'evite,
Tout vous livre à l'envi le rebelle Hyppolite,
Moimême pour tout fruit de mes soins superflus,
Maintenant je me cherche, et ne me trouve plus,
Mon arc, mes javelots, mon char, tout m'importune,
Je ne me souviens plus des leçons de Neptune,
Mes seul gemissements font retentir les bois,
Et mes coursiers oisifs ont oublié ma voix.

Is this the genuine language of feeling? But of this species of false taste, which disfigures the whole of the French poetry, or rather which constitutes its essence, we have already seen enough. Let any one turn up the play at random, and he will find just such conceits expressed in such factitious language. One of the great faults of this tragedy, is a monotony both of thought and expression, without any of the soft lights of imagination that charm the mental vision, or any of the sudden and intense blazes that overpower it, or any of the unexpected bursts of passion that swell the heart with violent yet natural emotion. With this people nothing is natural: their feeling sparkles in epigram, and when they fancy themselves under the influences of inspiration, they rave, and heave, and bellow with the frantic contortions of a false prophetess. I have turned over the play for some redeeming passages, and, after the most attentive perusal, can only find the following. It is the description of the state of Phedre before she swallows the poison, and is a powerful picture.

Quelquefois pour flatter ses secrettes douleurs,
Elle prend ses enfans et les baigne de pleurs,
Et soudain renonçant a l'amour maternelle,
Sa main avec horreur les repousse loin d'elle,
Elle porte au hazard ses pas irresolus,
Son œil tout egaré ne nous reconnoit plus,
Elle a trois fois ecrit, et changeant de pensée,
Trois fois a rompu sa lettre commencé.

RECENT INSTANCES OF TORTURE BY THE USE OF THE PILNIEWINKS.

MR EDITOR,

Having observed in your former Numbers, that you mention the manner of torturing called pilniewinks, I send you the following account of an atrocious instance of the use of this kind of punishment.

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In the year 1804, at Moulinearne market, Mr ——— land-surveyor of ——— was witness to the following facts.—A party of gipsies had stolen, or been suspected of stealing, some articles from a John B——, farmer in the Braes of Athole. B—— took several of the gipsies, and boring holes in the form before his door, and making a like number of wooden pins, he put a finger of each hand of four or five of the gipsies into the holes, and drove in pins upon them till the blood sprung from the fingers. The rumour of the transaction coming to the ears of a justice of the peace, an inquiry was set on foot. B—— was alarmed, and by means of various presents, one of which was a poney, he induced the gypsies to leave the county, and there the story dropt.

This, I apprehend, is the latest use of pilniewinks in this country. In the year 1745, indeed, an old gentleman, then tutor in a considerable family in the Hebrides, used to say, that the mode of punishing petty crimes in the district in which he lived, was to take out the tine or tooth of a harrow, to put a finger of the culprit into the hole, and then drive the tooth in again upon the finger. Sometimes this kind of torture was applied in order to extort confession, when an additional stroke on the tooth was struck at each reiteration of a question.

But while we notice these punishments in our own country, I cannot refrain from mentioning, that, in consequence of some unusual mirth in the English prison in the Isle of France, which disturbed the neighbours, Captain William Fitzwilliam Owen, of the royal navy, a man whose talents and bravery entitle him to the respect of his countrymen, was put into a dungeon, and thumb-screws applied for thirty-six hours. Gangrene ensued, and it was fully three months before he had the use of his thumbs. This was during the government of General De Caen, whose barbarous treatment of many other prisoners, some of whom were wounded, and many were women, should not be forgotten. G.

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURE CONNECTED WITH THE BUILDING OF THE SOUTH BRIDGE, EDINBURGH.

MR EDITOR,

At a time when the public attention is drawn to the great improvements at present carrying on in this city, it may afford satisfaction to your readers, to see a statement of the funds and expenditure connected with the building of the South Bridge, which was one of the first great improvements on the town.

When the act of Parliament was obtained for building the South Bridge, it was generally expected that the sales of areas for building on would fully reimburse the necessary expence of the undertaking; but in case this fund should fall short, authority was given by the act to levy an assessment on the city and south districts, not exceeding ten per cent. of the valued rents, for making up the deficiency. Certain trustees were named by the act for carrying it into execution, most of whom were persons in official situations, whose other occupations prevented them from giving much of their attention to the details of the business, which were managed by their clerk, who made reports verbally to the trustees from time to time, upon which their minutes proceeded.

It does not appear that any steps were ever taken to bring the accounts to a balance, till some claims were lodged with the clerk, on the funds remaining unappropriated, and as these claims were not immediately connected with the objects of the original trust, the trustees were induced to bring a process before the Court of Session, for ascertaining to whom the balance of the funds might in safety be paid; in the course of which process a report was made by an accountant, containing a very full view of the whole funds and expenditure under the trustees' management, from which the accompanying abstract is taken.

Before the areas opposite to the College were sold, very strong remonstrances were made to the trustees by the managers of the Infirmary, against building on these areas, as tending to prevent the free circulation of air, so essential to the hospital, to which the trustees would undoubtedly have attended, if they had been aware of the fact, that the funds were *amply sufficient* for the purposes of the trust, without disposing of these areas; but trusting to the verbal reports of their clerk, (who never appears to have given any written view of the state of

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the funds,) they were induced to believe this would not be the case, a circumstance which the public have reason to regret, not only as affecting the Infirmary, but as losing the opportunity of throwing open the view of the College, which can never now be seen to proper advantage.

From the following abstract it appears, that, after executing the objects of the trust, the surplus fund amounted to - - L.23,681 9 6

But of this there arises from interest on the surplus funds, after the works were completed, - -	8,434	1	0
Remains, L.	15,247	8	6
The sum received for areas opposite the College, - -	9,140	0	0
Surplus, L.	6,107	8	6

Which would have remained after completing all the objects of the trust, and retaining the areas now built on between the College and the Infirmary, as an open space, thereby affording free air to the Infirmary, and a fine view of the beautiful front of the College.

Abstract of the Receipts and Expenditure by the Trustees for Building a Bridge over the Cowgate, and other Meliorations in the City of Edinburgh.

RECEIPTS.

Prices of old materials sold -			L. 416	7	7
Prices of areas sold for building on, and interest - -			86,638	3	4
Miscellaneous receipts from rents of houses before being taken down, &c. - - -			687	15	9
		L.	87,742	6	8
Assessment of 10 per cent. levied on the city, and south districts			9831	12	0
		L.	97,573	18	8
Interest received on money lodged with bankers	L. 1395	1 1			
Ditto on money lent to the town of Edinburgh -	3273	2 10			
			4,668	3	11
		L.	102,242	2	7
Add balances remaining due on the prices of areas, including interest to Whitsunday 1817 - -			2,944	19	2
Interest then due by the city of Edinburgh			2,957	5	6
And by bankers			5	16	8
Total		L.	108,150	3	11

Brought forward L.	108,150	3	11

EXPENDITURE.

For building the South Bridge, making and paving the streets connected with it, levelling the High Street, alterations on the Tron Church, and making the communication between Potter Row and Bristo Street	L. 15,366	16	8			
Prices of houses and areas in the line of the bridge, &c. purchased by the trustees,	45,994	5	0			
Ditto in Potter Row, Bristo Street, &c.	6,544	19	5			
Interest paid on money borrowed for carrying on the works -	10,475	4	3			
Expences of the Act of Parliament, law charges, and other expences of management -	4,822	18	1			
Prices of areas, and other debts remaining due by the trustees, including interest to Whitsunday 1817	1,264	11	0			
Total expenditure connected with the bridge -				84,468	14	5
Surplus fund, after accomplishing the original objects of the trust L.				23,681	9	6

In the course of the process before the Court of Session, warrants were given for the following payments, viz.

To the city chamberlain towards the expence of draining the Meadows L.	3000	0	0
To ditto, for general purposes, per warrant - -	3000	0	0
To tradesmen employed in building the College - -	7631	12	6
For the expence of paving Nicholson's Street - -	962	9	11
Amount appropriated by warrants L.	14,594	2	5

And the remaining balance, being L. 9087, 7s. 1d. is claimed by the town of Edinburgh, who allege they are entitled to a preference under the Acts of Parliament.

ON FASHIONABLE LIONS.

"Were I in England now, as once I was, and had but this fish painted, not a holiday fool there but would give a piece of silver. There would this monster make a man; any strange beast there makes a man; when they will not give a doit to relieve a lame beggar, they will lay out ten to see a dead Indian."—*Tempest, Act II.*

MR EDITOR,

I SEND you two letters, which, though written in, and descriptive of, two cities, not only very distant from each other, but from our northern metropolis, will, I suspect, be found, in some sort, to apply to it, not less than to the places whence the letters are dated. Your philosophical turn will be gratified by seeing how much human beings are alike in similar cir-

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cumstances, notwithstanding those differences of latitude and longitude which were once supposed to influence men as they do gooseberry bushes.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
M. G.

London, May 6, 18—

At length, my dear John, I am at home, the very boundary and goal of an Englishman's wishes from the moment he leaves his native shore till he returns to it. *. . . . . Of all the nations I have visited, from Lapland to Caffraria, and from Patagonia to Greenland, there is not one that can come up to the English in curiosity. Indeed, it is to this national virtue that we must ascribe the excessive fondness of the people of this capital for seeing lions. Now, do not, my good friend, imagine, that I mean that it is the fashion to go to see his Majesty's wild beasts in the Tower, through the medium of a bribe to the beaf-eater in waiting. But I must try to give you a sketch of the various kinds and degrees of lions which, from time to time, engage the curious eyes of the most polished and rational capital in the world, first noticing, that, far from valuing a town lion for its age, as Polito or a tower-porter would do, the gazers in London scarce see any beauty in one of more than three weeks old, in the height of the season, though, towards the beginning and the end, I have known their attractions last nearly twice that time.

A London lion may be of any age, form, or sex, and indeed all these particulars must differ with the rank and calling of the spectator. For instance, a country cousin, come to town to see if the streets are paved with gold, is introduced to St Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Monument, and the Water-works, as lions. An inquisitive traveller is shewn "Meux's new brewhouse," the chain cable manufactory, and the London and West India docks, and is told that now he has seen the lions. But these are so akin to the noble four-footed king of beasts, whose value increases with age, that I shall abstain from farther mention of them, and proceed, at once, to the real ephemeral lion of London; and, though I cannot pretend to the anatomical skill of a Home or an Abernethy, I trust my description will enable you to identify the species, if you should meet with such on your travels.

When Shakespear made Snug the joiner play the part of lion, he was certainly not less gifted with the prophetic spirit than when, in his *As You Like It*, he anticipated the best portion of the Lake school of poetry; for the modern lions of London have really arms, and legs, and heads, for aught I can discover by the outside, like ordinary men and women, dressed, too, in breeches and petticoats, according to their sex; though, to tell you a secret, I have heard it whispered that the petticoated lions have all another dress beneath; but this, I am pretty certain, is mere scandal, because the state and title of lion is not always of the noble creature's own choosing.

Lions, in general, eat, drink, walk, and talk like ordinary human beings; and, although each of them must have some little distinguishing peculiarity, yet there are three pretty distinct characters, the haughty, the timid, and the satisfied. The first class is far the most courted, and, I think, the most rare. You shall see one of these with the very face and figure of the Giaour, surrounded by all the youngest, and loveliest, and wisest, and wittiest of our exquisite societies, turning his handsome head away, and smiling contempt upon his flatterers, who retreat awe-struck, then advance again, and, I believe in my heart, would show a scratch from his adorable claw as a trophy. Then your timid lion is hunted round and round, till he is made to stand and face about in his own defence; while your good-natured satisfied lion walks his paces, raises his voice, bristles his mane, at the request of the spectators, and seems just as pleased as they are; and these lions are far the most numerous, and, therefore, shortest lived, and least cared for. It would be scarcely conceivable how the succession of lions is kept up, did we not know of what immense importance it is to every lady to have her house fuller than it can hold on her *at-home* nights, and, consequently, how essential it is that she should have something to hold out as a lure to St James's Square, that Grosvenor Square cannot rival;

* Here family matters are spoken of, which we omit.

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and it is curious to see how nights are arranged and re-arranged, to secure that indispensable article of fashionable demand. If the author, with his poem in manuscript, is the lion at ——— House, the publisher, with the first proof in his pocket, has an excellent chance of being lion in ——— Street. If a new buffa singer is displaying his powers at a certain Marchioness's, her rival is sure to make Old N——i bring some of *that new man's songs*, and run over them, that she may not be taken by surprise by any of the happy set who have heard the first roar of the new lion.

Well would it be if the love of lions rested here; but the mania for these creatures has increased to such an alarming height, that all the innocent sports and pastimes of youth seem in danger of being banished by it.

My poor little niece Mary complained to me t'other day, that though she has been out two whole winters, she never got half through a single country dance, without being called off to run after the lion poet, or the lion heiress, or the lion authoress; and that even if her chaperon had allowed her to dance on, she scarcely ever met with a partner who did not leave her the instant the mighty monster was announced.

Mary's brother is just as angry at the lions as she is, and says it is very hard, when he thinks he has just secured his mistress's attention, to be obliged to listen to the grave saws of a political lion, the romance of an enthusiastic lion, and the metaphysics of a German lion, till the fair occasion is gone which he had been on the watch for months past to attain. But my letter is long enough. Tell me if this pest has reached the East. Yours ever, BENJAMIN BENNET.

[From the answer to the above letter we extract the following portion:]

Are there lions in the East? I am not sure that they are called so, but I am sure there are such things, and what is worse, that I your old friend actually have suffered transmigration into and out of the body of a lion. But you shall hear ——

I pass over the events of my voyage, my landing at Abusheker, (Bushire or Balsora,) my journey to Bagdad, my narrow escape from robbers in the mountain road to Ispahan, my quarrels with my Mehmendar, and the thousand and on vexations attendant on travelling in a half civilized country, till I arrived at court. There my evil genius took possession of me, for, just as I alighted from my horse, a court favourite happened to get so violent a kick from his courser, that, had I not bled him on the spot, he would never have risen from the earth. This success constituted me a favourite, and, of course, a lion. The first symptom of my change of nature was an invitation to visit his majesty, the bearded Futeh Ali Shah himself, which visit being instantly buzzed abroad, in less than half an hour I had all the nobles of the court in and round about my tent; my clothes were examined, my mathematical instruments ran the risk of being ruined by the awkward handling of the right honourable fingers of visiers, muftis, emirs, and cazees; and I was detained so long to exhibit my skill in the Persic and Arabic tongues, that I feared my reception at court would have been scarcely agreeable. However, curiosity insured me those honours which royal impatience had nearly refused, and my first visit went off tolerably well.

But, alas! I was now a lion. I could not steal out to take a view of the city, but all the little ragged boys followed me, with long live the saviour of Hadjee Cassim's life, the favourite of the great king. Deafened with their noise, if I retreated to my tent, there were Hadjee Cassim's thousand relations with fevers and broken bones to be cured by the great *Hakim*. I never ate a meal in peace, for I never remember seeing my tent empty for a moment, and seldom was I allowed to eat at home. One night I must attend the visier, and though I detest tobacco, and sherbet disagrees with my stomach, etiquette forced me to take my calioon and drink in my turn, and, what is worse, to laugh at all the stories which, in different forms, have been transplanted from Joe Miller into the Tooti Nameh, and from the Tooti Nameh into Joe Miller, without mercy or consideration for time or climate. My back was broken and my legs numbed by squatting instead of sitting, and my stomach and head equally the worse for the smoke and the sour drink I had swallowed.

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Another time the ladies of the royal harem contrived to feign fevers in order to obtain a sight of the great Hakim, and I was introduced to a collection of the most beautiful and delicate hands and arms in nature, that I might feel their pulses and prescribe; but I could not obtain the sight of a single face, though I heard the malicious creatures laughing at my embarrassment through the veil between us. Then, at a great entertainment, where the loveliest dancers and the sweetest singers were assembled, my state as favourite forbade my speaking to any. Such was my visit to the Persian Court, where, though I enjoyed the favour of the sovereign, the applauses of the courtiers, and the admiration of the multitude, my health suffered from new customs, my mind from continual restraint, and my heart from disappointed affection and misplaced friendship, for I was too closely surrounded and too carefully watched to be able to distinguish between real worth and well masked villany, or to discern pure esteem from the fawning of flatterers.

Such is here, and must be every where, the condition of a lion. Who can therefore wish for fashionable celebrity? Not certainly your friend,

JOHN JENNINGS.

If we may hazard an observation upon this last letter, we think Mr Jennings concludes too seriously. The state of lion is so transitory, that we submit to our readers whether it be not desirable to pass through it, in order to see the panorama, the raree show of society. For our own parts, we have seen so many bright smiles, so many approving glances, lavished on the lions we have occasionally beheld, that as we know that statues, pictures, medals, and books, do sometimes undergo that state of trial, we have no higher ambition than that this our valuable miscellany should figure as the lion of our native town, even for a longer time than poor Mr Jennings suffered at Ispahan.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE AGAMEMNON OF ESCHYLUS, ILLUSTRATED WITH TRANSLATIONS.

(Continued from Page 306.)

IN submitting to the reader some observations on this very interesting drama, it was chiefly in view to point out the skill of Æschylus in the delineation of character; and particularly in the manner in which he gradually unfolds the character of Clytemnestra, it was remarked, that he seems to have set an example of admirable management, which has scarcely, however, been followed by any succeeding poet. We are, in most dramas, made acquainted with the characters, almost in the first scenes in which they are presented to us, and even the greatest hypocrites, however they may be supposed to impose upon the rest of the *Dramatis Personæ*, always take care in their soliloquies, and speeches aside, which are, in fact, speeches to the audience, to make us perfectly intimate with the most secret workings of their minds. Shakespeare himself falls very much into this method; and, were it not that the reflections and reveries which, on these occasions, he puts into the mouths of his characters, are, for the most part, very natural, and such as, we may easily suppose, to be passing through their minds, we should be as much shocked with the clumsiness of the contrivance even in his hands, as we invariably are when we meet with it in less highly-gifted poets. There is something, however, infinitely more skilful in bringing out a character by degrees in the natural course of the dialogue and of the incidents. Why should it all be made plain at once? It is much finer to drop, as if by accident, its peculiar traits in our way, inexplicable as they may be at the moment of their occurrence, but which, serving to rouse our attention, come afterwards to be perfectly understood when the whole tissue of the character is laid before us.

An instance of this occurs in that singular silence which Clytemnestra observes for some time after the entrance of the messenger who brings her the information of the immediate approach of her husband; and then, in the violent protestations, which, upon being awakened from her reverie, she instantly makes of her attachment to him, and which she scarcely would have made, if she had not been conscious that she deserved to be suspected. These traits, though perfectly natural, are not explained at the moment; and, accordingly, they may somewhat startle us; but their very

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peculiarity keeps our attention fixed on the elucidation of the character, and they recur to our minds again with that kind of satisfaction which attends a discovery, when we come to see clearly how they are to be accounted for.

As far as we have yet seen Clytemnestra, nothing has appeared that could justly excite any strong suspicion of her intentions. We left her receiving her husband in a strain of great apparent affection, and urging him with what seemed to be mere female vanity, (though, in truth, with the fanatical idea of calling down upon his head the vengeance of insulted heaven,) to enter his palace with much triumphant display. Agamemnon, though greatly averse to it, at last yields to her fancy; but, before he goes in, he gives us a proof of the kindness of his nature. Cassandra, the prophetic daughter of Priam, accompanied him as a captive, (a personage whom we shall afterwards find acting a very great and terrific part in the tragedy,) and he says to the queen,

——— Be kind, I pray thee, wife,
To this poor female stranger: the good Gods
Look down with favour on the conqueror,
Who with no harshness loads the captive chains,
Heavy in themselves to bear—She follows me—
Gift of the army, a captive of high price—
A chosen flower to grace me!—So to my home,
(I have yielded this to thee,) to my proud home
I pace along on purple!

Clytemnestra follows him in with a seeming virtuous, but, in reality, most impious prayer,

Jove, do thou grant my prayers,—prosper them, Jove,
And be the event as thy high wisdom orders!

A dark presage again comes over the minds of the Chorus, which they express in an abrupt and hurried strain of poetry.

Chor. What 'tis, I cannot tell,
But some dark vision,
With a resistless spell,
Clouds my prophetic soul!
It will not roll
Away, but clings with close adhesion!
Not like the troubled dreams of night
That fly before the light!
My hope and trust are greatly fallen, I own,
Nor will my bosom's lord sit lightly on his throne.

The time is long since past
Since that bold navy,
Let loose before the blast,
Its cables and its sails
Borne by the gales,
Where Ilium fell in ruin heavy—
Yea its return these eyes have seen—
And yet—(what can it mean?)
No voice of joy will forth, tuned to our lyres,
But dark Erinnys all our gloomy songs inspires!

Something within there is
Darkens my spirit,
And seldom do they miss,
These inward visitings,
Whatever brings
Them on—true issues to inherit!
O yet, may these fallacious be,
And may I never see
The forethought of my heart, before my eyes
Standing in the horror of its bodily size!

All now seems in good health,
But health soon changing,
Disease creeps on by stealth!
The ship may spread her sails
With prosperous gales,
O'er the smooth ocean freely ranging,
Nor know that it is near the shock
Of the concealed rock!—
Yet even then, the cargo bravely toss'd
Into the sea, the gallant ship may not be lost!

And though above an house
Hangeth disaster,
Yet in the very souse
Of sinking fortune, Jove
May from above
Stretch out his hand,—he still is master—
And call the fruitful soil to save
(Like making smooth the wave)
From the pale form of Poverty, with cheeks
Of famine, when the ruin of that house she seeks!

'Tis very true,—yet blood
From a man dying,
Gushing in purple flood,
If once it reach the ground
Will ne'er be found
Again to course the veins:—One trying *
Life to restore, received a check
From Jove, and made a wreck
Of all such vain attempts!—Fate ties my tongue—
But—O my thoughts are black, and my heart's strings are wrung.

These forebodings of the Chorus, however, appear to be merely prophetic, and not founded upon any observation; and although, in the scene which follows, and which, as we shall

* Esculapius.

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see, lays open, by a most poetical and astonishing machinery, the deep mystery of wickedness which we have hitherto been contemplating, in its concoction, almost without a suspicion of what it is to be—although, in this scene, we are referred to former looks and gestures on the part of Clytemnestra as being full of meaning and signification, yet these dumb signs would very naturally be misinterpreted by the spectators until the explanation was suggested. In all this contrivance, there seems to be a delicate observation of nature, of which, perhaps, there is no other instance in dramatic poetry, in any degree, so perfect.

(To be Continued.)

REGALIA OF SCOTLAND.

MR EDITOR,

As the fate of these emblems of the ancient independence of this part of the island, has given rise to many conjectures; and as many of your readers cannot fail to partake of the national anxiety, to ascertain what has become of them, I beg leave, through the medium of your valuable Journal, to offer a few remarks on this interesting subject.

The regalia of Scotland consisted of a crown, a sceptre, and a sword of state, each of them enriched with a profusion of precious stones of various descriptions. These were complete in 1578; at least an inventory of King James the Sixth's jewellery, taken in that year, states the crown as "without any appearance of inlaik or diminishing." And it is not said, that the sword and sceptre were in any particular defective. These, our readers know, were, by the 24th article of the treaty of Union, provided "to be kept as they are, within that part of the united kingdom called Scotland, and that they shall so remain in all time coming." This provision was formally complied with, and it is on record, that, on the 26th March 1707, Mr William Wilson, depute-clerk of Session, the deputy of Earl Marischal, heritable keeper of the regalia of Scotland, did, in the presence of a number of persons of the highest respectability, convened within the Castle of Edinburgh, deliver over the crown, the sceptre, and the sword of state of Scotland, to the Lord Treasurer, protesting, that they should on no account be removed without due intimation given to the family of the Earl Marischal. From the instrument taken on this occasion, it appears that the regalia, together with a particular description of the parts, were then deposited in a chest in the Crown-room of the Castle, to be there kept agreeably to the act of Union. It is now upwards of a century since these procedings took place, and we are still utterly in the dark as to whether Mr Wilson's protest has been duly regarded; though, it is well known, that many doubts and unfavourable surmises have been long prevalent on the subject.

An incomplete, and, we will be pardoned for saying, a very unsatisfactory search of this apartment took place in the year 1794. The records of Scotland having at one time been kept in the Castle of Edinburgh, it was supposed that valuable papers might be recovered, by a search in the Crown-room. A royal warrant of search was accordingly obtained, authorizing the Lord Lieutenant of the county, the heads of our Supreme Courts, and other eminent individuals, to investigate this mysterious apartment, and to report the state of it; and, in consequence of this, an expectation was excited, that the scepticism of the people would be speedily removed. This investigation took place, and the report of the search is very full and very precise upon every point, save that one, on which it was anxiously hoped some light was about to be thrown. The report expresses, that the eminent personages specified in the warrant, did, with the assistance of his Majesty's wright and smith, break open the well-secured door and window of the Crown-room, by which laborious operation they were enabled to survey the interior of the apartment; that the apartment was found to be so many feet long, and so many feet broad; that the roof is arched; that it measures a certain number of feet from the floor to the spring of the arch, and so many more feet from the spring of the arch to the roof; that no records were found in the room; but that a chest, six feet three inches long, two feet six inches and a half wide, and two feet six and a half inches deep, was there discovered. That the searchers felt diffident

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of their power, under their warrant, to rummage this repository; that they left the chest untouched; and that they, on taking leave of the Crown-room, put the door and window of the apartment in a state of security equal to that in which they found them. The report concludes with a very ingenious supposition, that this chest contains the regalia of Scotland, because Mr Wilson's instrument bears, that they were deposited in this apartment.

Now, without intending to say any thing in the slightest degree disrespectful of the honourable and eminent persons who returned this report, I will take the liberty to assert, that it is utterly inconceivable that they should have hesitated about opening the lid of this chest, after breaking up the door and window, unless upon the supposition, that they were themselves infected by the prevailing popular doubts respecting the fate of the regalia; and that from a feeling of delicate expediency, they preferred questioning the extent of their powers to the exertion of them in a way which might have exposed "the nakedness of the land," and perchance have led to unpleasant consequences. Whatever may be in this, however, it is evident that this report could have little tendency to settle the popular doubts on the subject. These doubts have in fact since that time become still more inveterate; and without exercising any undue mistrust, or pretending to estimate the matter above its real importance, the people of Scotland may certainly be allowed, after the lapse of a century, to demand a more thorough investigation, and to have it fully ascertained whether this clause of the treaty of Union has been duly complied with.

Edinburgh, Oct. 1817. J. W.

In addition to the observations of our patriotic correspondent, we are enabled to mention a curious fact, upon the authority of the late Major Drummond, the officer on duty in the Castle at the time of the above search. Major Drummond having, in the exercise of his duty, accompanied the commissioners into the Crown-room, assisted in the examination that then took place; and he afterwards mentioned, that he himself repeatedly moved and shook the chest above described, in order to ascertain if it contained any thing, and that he was convinced by the experiment, that it was quite empty. He stated further, that though the chest was not opened, a box lined with velvet, which he conjectured to have once contained the *crown*, was found lying open beside it, the lid of which appeared to have been wrenched off by violence at some former period, and carelessly thrown to another corner of the apartment.

The vulgar belief, we know, is, that the regalia were removed during the troublous times that succeeded the Union, and that they were either then carried abroad, or are still in the possession of some of the great Highland families. We do not well see how such an extraordinary circumstance could take place *since the Union*, without something definite being known about it. But the matter certainly appears worthy of investigation, and it no doubt does seem somewhat curious that so simple a search should have been so long delayed. We have, however, the satisfaction of informing our readers, upon good authority, that a more complete and satisfactory search for these interesting national monuments is understood to be now in contemplation, and may be expected ere long to take place.—*Edit.*

OBSERVATIONS ON THE IGNEOUS ORIGIN OF THE AGATES OR PEBBLES FOUND IN THAT SPECIES OF TRAP NAMED AMYGDALOID.

This rock is one of those belonging to the trap series, and which, according to Jameson, occurs most abundantly in sandstone and coal districts. In many places it is named pebble rock, from the silicious nodules or pebbles which it contains. The substance of these pebbles or agates is most commonly a matter analogous to flint, nearly equalling it in hardness, and commonly remarkable for the variety and beauty of its colours. To the circumstance of their colour, we are indebted, in a great measure, for the history of their formation. Sometimes, however, where colour is wanting, the different hardness of their different parts, serves us equally well as an indication of their natural structure. But it is not merely when we find

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these substances enclosed in rocks, that we can thus judge of their formation, but every one of them taken individually, contains its own history within itself, and herein lies the difference between such, and those fortuitous collections of bodies rounded by water, which are also called pebbles, whether they are the remains of stratified bodies, or any other whatsoever. Such are dug from gravel-pits, and found in the beds of rivers;—such are the rolled masses upon the sea shore, with which we pave our streets. But, though the term pebble was at first exclusively applied to those hard silicious substances which have obtained the name of agate, onyx, &c. yet any substance whatever is capable of being similarly formed, whether it be hard or soft, provided only that it shall have been in a fluid form, as will appear necessary from the structure of these stones, when more particularly examined.

Jameson, in his System of Mineralogy, and also in his public lectures, maintains that these agates are of aqueous formation. The new views he has proposed on this subject,—the connections he has traced between the structure of these silicious substances, and the strata of the globe in general, are important, and may form the subject of a future communication. But my present object is to endeavour to render it probable that the amygdaloid rock and the agates it contains, are of igneous origin.

The particles of any two fluids mixed together, would, on their separation, assume a form more or less round; such is the appearance of fluids distinguished by their colours on marbled paper, and such would be the surface presented by a section of amygdaloid,—showing either hollows, or hollow, partly or entirely filled with a substance different from the rock, and all of these approaching to the round form, and rarely angular. *

Now, if we can prove that these bodies do not owe their rounded form to attrition, (the only other conceivable way,) they must have derived it from that cause which we supposed, namely, their having been left more or less at liberty to separate themselves from the general mass when in a fluid state. Indeed, were these hollows only found in these rocks, their appearance would be sufficient to demonstrate the softness of the surrounding rock, by showing, that the rock had been impressed by the action of a fluid, were it only of air; and that the matter which fills these has been itself in a fluid form, is demonstrable from their peculiar structure. These pebbles or agates consist in general not only of numerous coats, but those coats are generally distinguished by as great a variety of colours. It is indeed possible, from what has already been observed of the colouring matter of flints, that these different coats of colour, as well even as the coated structure itself, might have been produced by the action of decay, working upon a substance more or less penetrable, and producing such different degrees of hardness in the different coats, as should make them readily separate from one another; and thus a substance, originally homogeneous in its structure, would become coated, and as the decay could proceed only from the outward surface inwards, all the changes of colour would follow the same direction, affecting the centre last and least of all. But it must be observed, that though colour seems to be thus produced in some flints, decay has not produced that change in their structure, but the conchoidal fracture remains, and fracture always follows structure. But neither of these circumstances can possibly apply to those instances in which we find the hollow but half filled, and not only half filled, but containing a variety of substances which have crystallized in succession, one upon the other. And there are many instances where there is only a thin coating of matter lodged within the hollow; these hollow agates, of themselves, afford a sufficient refutation of the idea of a nucleus, round which coats have been successively formed, for here is no centre, and the regular disposition of the few coats that there are in these agates, which are hollow at the cen-

* It is known that when many layers or coats of paint of different colours are laid upon each other, that the different particles, in the course of time, assume a variety of globular and oval forms, thus presenting an appearance very much resembling agates. There is a specimen of this description in the possession of that distinguished surgeon Mr Russell.

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tre, and that disposition being arranged every where according to the shape of the cavity, sufficiently refutes the idea of the matter of agates being deposited in the hollow by infiltration, besides, that infiltration would happen in one direction only, there is no source from which the matter of agate can appear to have come, and if we suppose a regular permeability of the rock to such matter, we should expect to find its pores choaked up with this matter, and that it regularly proceeded downward to form a solid stratum of its own substance. We may again ask, on the supposition of a matter pervading the rock, how it comes to pass, that the different cavities, yet very near to each other, shall be filled with very different substances, one with calcareous spar, a second with the matter of flint, a third with mineral pitch, and perhaps all three combined in one cavity, yet preserving their substances distinct; and we very well know, that if either of these substances had already occupied the pores of the rock, that neither of the others could pass. Besides this, we know of no cause that can render two of the aforementioned substances, viz. the silicious and bituminous, capable of penetrating any porous body, to do which they must be fluid. We are, therefore, to suppose one of two things, either that these substances have assumed their present form, in the place where they are now found, and that they have either originated from a change or separation of some mixed mass, in which they were once combined, or that they have been collected together, from having once been dispersed each in its proper substance, through the main mass of the rock.

It appears also, that these matters have arranged themselves according to their different degrees of fusibility, as far as we know their chemical properties. To pursue the same instance, we next note, that of the three substances mentioned, one only is soluble in water, viz. the calcareous spar, and that this appears to have been neither the first nor the last of these three, in passing from a fluid to a solid form, but also that we know of no power capable of liquifying either of the other two substances, except fire, and that were fire the supposed agent, the order of their arrangement would justify the conjecture, the least fusible, viz. the flint, having cooled the first, then the calcareous spar, and lastly, the mineral pitch in the centre. Not that it is at all impossible that water too may have had its share in forming the calcareous spar, though that water may have afterwards escaped from the cavity; and the circumstances under which the mineral pitch is found, not closely adhering to either of the other substances, but preserving itself in the centre distinct from them, seems to favour this idea, because, unless the bitumen had been disunited from them by the intervention of a medium, with which it is not miscible, there seems to be no reason why it should not, on cooling, have subsided into the crevices of the silicious mineral. We know that water can make its escape from such cavities, and it has been also found in cavities lined with different coats of silicious matter, in the manner of these agates.

It does not follow, however, that water in all cases shall have occupied these hollows which are now found, nor that it shall have occupied, in any instance, the whole of that hollow space, because any elastic fluid either separated from the substance by heat during either their disunion or mere fusion, will alone be sufficient to make for itself, however compressed, some hollow space or bubble, such as the appearance of air bubbles in glass, which are there called *blebs*.

It would be endless to speak of the variety of substances which are thus found having the same structure as agate. Of the silicious stones of which I am now speaking, it may be sufficient to observe, that they have every where throughout the same rock an external coating similar in them all. In some this is a thin layer of steatite, frequently green. In others, it consists of a very hard transparent coating of agate. If this coating were the only one lining the hollow, it would be found to present an internal surface, protruding inwards in numerous small eminences, and producing that surface which we call mammilated, which proceeds entirely from the fluid parts having arranged themselves round the little roughnesses of the hollow. Let us suppose upon one plain surface a single projecting point, and that on this surface the fluid matter was to

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arrange itself coat by coat, we should then have a particular projection of the coats over the prominent point, in semicircular curves; and let us then take a case less simple, and suppose that plane surface bent round into a circle, and that one or more of these prominent points presented themselves, we should then have a number of semicircular congeries corresponding to the number of the points; and if the induration were to proceed slowly, these points would still prevail till the whole of the matter was indurated, and these semicircular curves would at length meet each other in the middle, as circles on the water interfere with each other. But when the points from which these semicircles proceed are not very prominent, they soon lose their effect, by being covered with a succession of coats, the irregularities become less and less unequal, till at length they have only the effect of a plane surface little varied, and from that surface the coats proceed regularly inwards. These semicircular appearances are called *eyes*, and from their being lodged immediately within the hard transparent coating, that may afterwards be cut away, so as to present a large surface of these eyes, are much prized by collectors. The more colourless of these stones are called calcedonies, and the other agates, though the term agate is used indiscriminately for both; and indeed whenever silicious substance appears to have been indurated, layer after layer, upon any other substance, that mode of deposition which is in fact only a stalactite, has in the silicious stone been termed from this substance agatization.

Thus we have jasper agates in which colour abounds, and agatized jaspers in which the stalactite abounds. There are two appearances, however, in some of these pebbles, which are less easy of explanation than those already mentioned; one has the appearance of icicles as it were, or stalactites of the matter of agate or calcedony found hanging down in these hollows, and the coats regularly formed round them, as the coats of wax or tallow are round the wick in the process of candle-making. In the centre of these, and in their longitudinal direction, we generally find a black line, and frequently some more projecting part of the substance of the matrix. These are sometimes found in cavities, and we have sometimes something like a demonstration of their having existed even where the cavity is entirely filled up, and often appear to have been indurated prior to the rest of the substance, *i. e.* we find the rest of the substance everywhere circumfused, filling up their interstices, and this seems to be the only plausible argument which favours the idea of infiltration; but we need look no farther for its refutation than the very circumstance now alluded to, *i. e.* the acknowledged existence of one or more coats of silicious substance already formed within the hollow, which coats, though not dense enough to prevent the escape of water, and in the same manner its ingress, are certainly too compact to suffer fluid flint or calcedony to pass through them.

If, therefore, we observe, now and then, some instances of a predisposition in particular parts of a mass to arrange themselves before the rest, and in a form differing from the obvious and general one, we shall be the less surprised at finding a second deviation, which is next to be mentioned, *i. e.* a stratified or onyx form. These are sometimes found constituting the whole substance of the agate, running in straight and parallel lines from one side of the mass to the other; and it is this appearance that has given rise to the conjecture of these being only fragments of regular crystallized bodies, which have been enveloped by the mass which now contains them, whilst it was in a fluid form. But proof is not wanting that the stalactitical form already mentioned is sometimes produced in these very hollows where we have seen that fire can have been the only cause of fluidity; and also that where these stalactites prevail, this onyx form of arrangement makes a part of the same agate; and indeed we most frequently find, that these straight lines, instead of cutting the pebble from side to side, are continued in the other parts of the pebble in a curved form. When they appear wholly consisting of straight lines, it may perhaps be accounted for, from the whole mass taking a disposition to congeal, at the same time, that one mode of formation prevails throughout, as we see in some jaspers where sometimes stars prevail, and sometimes arbo-

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rization. It *might* be supposed also, in some measure, owing to the gradual process of deposition, were we to suppose the main mass or matrix to be at rest. But, if we suppose fire to have been the cause of the fluidity of these pebble rocks, motion is generally a concomitant circumstance of fluidity; and we are therefore at liberty to suppose, not merely the motion of the main mass concerned, which was checked only by its congealing, but also no small share of intestine motion, from the fresh union and disunion, were it only the mechanical mixture of such heterogeneous substances as abound in these rocks. A regular process of deposition may, therefore, have been interrupted when half finished, and the matter afterwards compelled to arrange itself according to the more confined form of the hollow, producing the appearances which more generally take place. There appears also in these regularly stratified pebbles another mark of slow induration, *i. e.* the stellar or spherical formation of some of its parts. Whether any principle of repulsion may have had its share in their formation, it does not seem probable that we shall ever be able to determine. It may be observed, that, according as the mass is of coarser or finer materials, so is the regularity or sphericity of these, whether pebbles or mere hollows. An accurate knowledge of these rocks, and of the structure of an agate, will do more towards explaining the great phenomena of Nature than any other principle we can adopt. The formation of an agate, depending upon the simple laws of attraction between similar particles, when left at liberty to follow that attraction, may be extended to masses of matter of any magnitude; and, were we to suppose the whole globe of our earth perfectly fluid, either from fiery fusion or mechanical suspension of its parts in water, it is obvious that an arrangement would take place of its particles, similar in form, and opposite in the manner, the centripetal force, causing different strata to be arranged round a centre or nucleus. Thus it is that spheres are formed every day upon a smaller scale; and magnitude is not concerned with either chemical or physical operations. We shall make a farther use of amygdaloid rock, by finding occasionally buried in its substance certain regular hard bodies which abound also in many other rocks; and, from putting circumstances together, we shall be enabled to infer, that the same formal cause has given rise to all of them. Thus, from a single specimen, well understood, and taken with its consequences, a whole theory would flow, or might be collected. It appears, that, in the coloured agates, in consequence of the change from a fluid to a solid state, those colours have been separated into distinct layers, which we are to suppose were before diffused through the whole mass, and that, in consequence of that change, whether produced by the subduction of fire, (*i. e.* the gradual cooling of the matrix,) or any other cause of induration, the colouring matter has been separated, layer after layer, sometimes to a very minute division; and we frequently find different layers of the same colour disposed at unequal distances from the outward surface, so that it appears that the central matter, which was the last indurated, seems to have been of the same nature with the external or first indurated. Sometimes we find these hollows filled almost wholly with the pure matter of quartz, which, if there is any void space, crystallizes; and it seems as if, after all the colouring matter of an agate has been deposited in successive layers, that the matter of quartz remains colourless, and crystallizes in the centre. The colouring particles, if examined with a microscope, and also sometimes to the naked eye, appear in the form of little spheres, according to the laws of fluids before mentioned.

Those cavities which contain a variety of substances exhibit, therefore, when any void space is left, some of the most perfect crystals in their hollows; and the same may be observed of the most hollow or freest parts of veins, whether filled by earths or metallic matter. It will admit of a question, whether these substances in cooling may not contract, and thus tend to produce these central cavities. A probable cause of the separation of the colouring matter is the cooling of that fluid, which before held them in solution.

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REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Border Antiquities of England and Scotland; comprising Specimens of Architecture and Sculpture, and other Vestiges of Former Ages, accompanied by Descriptions. Together with Illustrations of remarkable incidents in Border History and Tradition, and Original Poetry. By WALTER SCOTT, Esq. 2 vols. quarto, 1814 and 1817. London, Longman and Co.

OF the different regions into which our country is divided, it may be said, that, as the Highlands possess the greatest attraction for the lover of nature in her sublimest and most interesting forms, so the Border has charms to fascinate all those who delight in romantic enterprise, and poetic fancy. This boundary between two warlike and long hostile kingdoms, became naturally the great theatre on which the achievements of the feudal ages were performed. The habitual hostility, too, with which the inhabitants of the opposite side of the *March* viewed each other, gave rise to a constant series of minor exploits, which, though they could not find a place in history, kept alive the habits of activity, enterprise, and daring valour, and held men's minds in a state of perpetual excitement. The same causes which rendered this spot the theatre of war, rendered it also a land of song; for true and native poetry is the result, not of monastic and studious seclusion, but of those eventful circumstances which fire the imagination, and melt the heart. It is evident that the flame, which animates the genius of our great Scottish minstrel, has been kindled at the recollection of the deeds of his forefathers. Had not the splendour of his own effusions so far eclipsed those of the nameless bards whose works he has with kindred sympathy collected, these last, perhaps, might have held a higher place in our estimation; and, even as they stand, when due allowances are made, they certainly appear entitled to hold no mean rank among the poetic monuments of the feudal ages. The adventures which they relate are not confined to the mere exploits of marauding warfare; gallantry and attachment to the fair sex had found a place in these rude breasts; and in such unsettled and boisterous times, the alarms, perils, and disasters, to which the fair objects of their admiration were perpetually exposed, afforded incidents which it required only a moderate share of invention to weave into an interesting and poetic narrative.

Another effect of this constant state of warfare upon the Borders, was the construction of "towers of defence," which, if they could not aspire to the rank of fortresses, might at least afford protection against sudden inroad; and, if they could not repel an invader, might retard his progress. These could not, indeed, rival the pomp and magnificence of those mansions which, in the interior of Scotland, and the less troubled districts of England, were erected by the great nobles for the display of baronial splendour. A square tower built on a height, with walls of immense thickness, and a few narrow loop-holes for the admission of light, and the discharge of missile weapons, formed usually the whole array of a Border castle. Some, however, belonging to the great nobility, were built on a scale of greater magnificence; they are placed generally in a picturesque situation, and all of them recal events in history and tradition which must be interesting to a large portion of the present generation. It is well, therefore, in this age of graphic ornament, when it seems destined that every thing on which the eye can look, must be embodied by the graver, and collected into handsome volumes for the amusement of the *amateur*, that these monuments of the prowess of our forefathers should not escape delineation. Besides the military, ecclesiastical monuments of considerable interest here present themselves. These wild spirits, amid their devotion to fight and plunder, did not remain insensible to the influence of a faith so calculated to dazzle the senses as that of Rome. The sword and the breviary went hand in hand, and the spoils of Eng-

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land were partly employed in the erection of religious houses, for the celebration, with due pomp, of the Catholic rites.

The present work, certainly, does credit to those by whom it was projected and executed. The different plates appear to be well designed and engraved, and the points of view in general happily chosen. We were particularly pleased with the castles of Newcastle, Carlisle, Warkworth, Bamborough, Naworth; the monasteries of Lanercost, Tynemouth, Jedburgh, Lindisfarne. Melrose is familiar to us on a more satisfactory scale than the present work admits. Several of the interiors appear to us very interesting, and deeply impressed with that pleasing sentiment which carries us back into the inmost recollection of past ages.

We think the work, however, would have been improved, if some kind of arrangement had been followed. At first, indeed, an attempt seems to be made at this; but it is soon abandoned, and the objects are heaped together in utter confusion. We are aware, that, in a periodical work, some regard might be necessary to the varying degree of dispatch afforded by the different artists. But, with a little good management, it might surely have been so arranged, that, at the conclusion of the whole, the chaos might have been unravelled, and some system of order established.

To this work is prefixed an introduction of considerable length, and of very peculiar value and interest. We need only mention, that it comes from the pen of Mr Scott, and that it contains illustrations of remarkable incidents in Border history and tradition, to satisfy the reader, that they will be described at once with historical accuracy, and with that poetic feeling which gives them their chief interest. Mr Scott begins by remarking the striking aspect presented by a country which, after having long been the theatre of national hostility, has remained for some time in a state of peace. "Numerous castles left to moulder in massive ruins; fields where the memory of ancient battles still lives among the descendants of those by whom they were fought or witnessed; the very line of demarcation which, separating the two countries, though no longer hostile, induces the inhabitants of each to cherish their separate traditions,—unite to render these regions interesting to the topographical historian or antiquary." He then describes the antiquities of the Britons, of which the most remarkable are the extensive entrenchments known by the name of the Catrail, and the remains of an irregular hill fort, situated on the grounds of Mr Pringle of Fairnilee. This is followed by a view of the Roman antiquities, which, besides their great roads, and the remains of the wall of Antoninus, consist chiefly of arms and sepulchral monuments. At length the time came when the Saxons, partly as conquerors, and partly as refugees, filled the whole low country of Scotland, and finally communicated their language to that part of the kingdom. Our author, however, observes, that the system of clanship which was originally Celtic, and unknown to the Saxons, was borrowed by the latter, and adopted on the Borders to nearly as great an extent as in the Highlands. Of this remarkable form of political association, a very striking picture is given. The most flourishing period of Border history was the reign of David I. when the splendid monasteries of Kelso, Jedburgh, Melrose, and Dryburgh, were founded. The castles also of Roxburgh and Jedburgh, then standing, appear to have surpassed any military stations erected in later times. After the usurpation of Edward I. and the succession of desolating invasions with which Scotland was afflicted, the Scots ceased attempting to defend regularly their frontiers. The consequences are thus described:

"It followed, from this devastating system of defensive war, that the Scottish were so far from desiring to cover their borders by building strong places or fortresses, that they pulled them down and destroyed them where they already existed. Buchanan has elegantly turned this systematic destruction of their castles into a compliment to the valour of his countrymen;

Nec fossis et muris patriam sed Marte tueri.

But, without disparaging Scottish valour, the motive of leaving their frontier thus open, seems to have been a consciousness that they were greatly surpassed by the English both in the attack and defence of their strongholds;—that if they threw their best warriors into frontier garrisons, the

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might be there besieged, and reduced either by force or famine; and that the fortresses of which the enemy should thus obtain possession, might afford them the means of maintaining a footing in the country. When, therefore, the Scottish patriots recovered possession of the castles which had fallen into the power of the English, they usually dismantled them. The Good Lord James of Douglas surprised his own castle of Douglas three times, it having been as frequently garrisoned by the English, and upon each occasion he laid waste and demolished it. The military system of Wallace was on the same principle. And, in fine, with very few exceptions, the strong and extensive fortresses, which had arisen on the Scottish Borders in better times, were levelled with the ground during the wars of the thirteenth century. The ruins of the Castles of Roxburgh, of Jedburgh, and of several others which were thus destroyed, bear a wonderful disproportion in extent to any which were erected in subsequent times. Nay, the Castle of Jedburgh was so strongly and solidly constructed, and the Scottish so unskilful in the art of destruction, even where there was no military opposition, that it was thought it could not be destroyed without such time and labour as would render it necessary to impose a tax of two pennies on every hearth in Scotland to defray the expence. But Duke Robert of Albany, then regent, to shun the unpopularity of this impost, defrayed the charge of the demolition out of the crown revenues.

"This continued to be the Scottish defensive system for many ages, and, of course, while it exposed invaders to hardships, loss, and want of subsistence, it reduced the frontiers of their own country, for the time, to a waste desart. Beacons were lighted in such a manner as to signify either the threatened approach, or actual arrival, of the English army. These were maintained at Hume Castle, at the Tower of Edgerhope, or Edgerstane, near the sources of the Jed, upon the ridge of the Soltra Hills, at Dunbar, Dunpender (or Trapraine) Law, North-Berwick Law, and other eminences; and their light was a signal for the Scottish forces to assemble at Edinburgh and Haddington, abandoning to waste and pillage all the southern counties. Till the very last occasion of hostility between England and Scotland, this mode of defensive war was resorted to in the latter kingdom. Cromwell found the Borders in that desolate situation in his campaign of 1650; and, had it not been for the misjudged zeal of the Presbyterian ministers, who urged David Lesley to give battle at Dunbar, he must have made a disastrous and disgraceful retreat.

"From this system it followed, that most of the Scottish places of strength even when the abode of great nobles or powerful chiefs, were constructed upon a limited and mean scale. Built usually in some situation of natural strength, and having very thick walls, strongly cemented, they could easily repel the attack of any desultory incursion; but they were neither victualled nor capable of receiving garrisons sufficient to defend them, excepting against a sudden assault. The village, which always almost adjoined to the castle, contained the abodes of the retainers, who, upon the summons of the chieftain, took arms either for the defence of the fortress or for giving battle in the field. Of these, the greater part were called "kindly tenants," or "rentallers," deriving the former name from the close and intimate nature of their connection with the lord of the soil, from whom they held their little possessions by favour rather than bargain; and the latter from the mode in which their right of possession was constituted, by entering their names in their lord's rental-book. Besides this ready militia, the more powerful chiefs maintained in their castle, and as immediate attendants upon their persons, the more active young gentlemen of their clan, selected from the younger brethren of gentlemen of estate, whose descent from the original stock, and immediate dependence upon the chief, rendered them equally zealous and determined adherents. These were recompensed by grants of land, in property or lease, which they stocked with cattle or sheep, as their chief did those which he retained in his own hands.

"But the castles which held these garrisons, whether constant or occasional, were not of strength, or at least of extent, at all commensurate with the military power of the chiefs who inhabited them. The ruins of Cessford, or of Branxholm, before the latter was modernized, might be considered as on the largest scale of Scottish Border fortresses, and neither could brook comparison with the baronial castles of English families of far less power and influence."

The edifices erected on the opposite side of the Border are thus represented:—

"If we turn our eyes from the frontiers of Scotland to those of England, we shall behold a very different scene, indicating, even in these remote provinces, the superior wealth and civilization of the English nation, with that attention to defence which was the natural consequence of their having something of value to defend. The central marches, indeed, and the extreme verge of the frontier in every direction, excepting upon the east, were inhabited by wild clans as lawless as their northern

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neighbours, resembling them in manners and customs, inhabiting similar strong-holds, and subsisting, like them, by rapine. The towers of Thirlwall, upon the river Tippal, of Fenwick, of Widdrington, and others, exhibit the same rude strength and scanty limits with those of the Scottish Border chieftains. But these were not, as in Scotland, the abode of the great nobles, but rather of leaders of an inferior rank. Wherever the mountains receded, arose chains of castles of magnificent structure, great extent, and fortified with all the art of the age, belonging to those powerful barons whose names hold so high a rank in English history. The great house of Clifford of Cumberland alone possessed, exclusive of inferior strong-holds, the great and extensive castles of Appleby, Brough, Brougham, Pendragon, and Skipton, each of which formed a lordly residence, as may yet be seen from their majestic ruins. The possessions of the great house of Percy were fortified with equal strength. Warkworth, Alnwick, Bamborough, and Cockermouth, all castles of great baronial splendour and strength, besides others in the interior of the country, shew their wealth and power. Raby Castle, still inhabited, attests the magnificence of the great Nevilles, Earls of Westmoreland; and the lowering strength of Naworth shews the power of the Dacres. All these, and many others which might be mentioned, are so superior to edifices of the same kind in Scotland, as to verify the boast, that there was many a dog-kennel in England to which the tower of a Scottish Borderer was not to be compared. Yet when Naworth or Brougham Castles are compared with the magnificence of Warwick and of Kenilworth, their savage strength, their triple rows of dungeons, the few and small windows which open to the outside, the length and complication of secret and subterranean passages, shew that they are rather to be held limitary fortresses for curbing the doubtful allegiance of the Borders, and the incursions of the Scottish, than the abodes of feudal hospitality and baronial splendour."

The following account of the Borderers or Moss-troopers will be found very interesting:—

"Contrary to the custom of the rest of Scotland, they almost always acted as light-horsemen, and used small active horses accustomed to traverse morasses, in which other cavalry would have been swallowed up. Their hardy mode of life made them indifferent to danger, and careless about the ordinary accommodations of life. The uncertainty of reaping the fruits of their labour deterred them from all the labours of cultivation; their mountains and glens afforded pasturage for the cattle and horses, and when these were driven off by the enemy, they supplied the loss by reciprocal depredation. Living under chiefs by whom this predatory warfare was countenanced, and sometimes headed, they appear to have had little knowledge of the light in which their actions were regarded by the legislature; and the various statutes and regulations made against their incursions, remained in most cases a dead letter. It did indeed frequently happen, that the kings or governors of Scotland, when the disorders upon the Border reached to a certain height, marched against these districts with an overpowering force, seized on the persons of the chiefs, and sent them to distant prisons in the centre of the kingdom, and executed, without mercy, the inferior captains and leaders. Thus, in the year 1529, a memorable era for this sort of expeditious justice, James V., having first committed to ward the Earl of Bothwell, the Lords Home and Maxwell, the Lairds of Buccleuch, Fairnihirst, Johnstone, Polwarth, Dolphington, and other chiefs of clans, marched through the Borders with about eight thousand men, and seizing upon the chief leaders of the moss-troopers, who seem not to have been aware that they had any reason to expect harm at their sovereign's hands, executed them without mercy. Besides the celebrated Johnie Armstrong of Gillnockie, to whom a considerable part of the English frontier paid black-mail, or protection-money, the names of Piers Cockburn of Henderland, Adam Scott of Tushielaw, called the King of the Border, and other marauders of note, are recorded as having suffered on this occasion. And although this, and other examples of severity, had the effect for the time, as the Scottish phrase is, of "dantoning the thieves of the Borders, and making the rush-bush keep the cow," yet this course not only deprived the kingdom of the assistance of many brave men, who were usually the first to endure or repel the brunt of invasion, but it also diminished the affections of those who remained; and a curious and middle state of relation appears to have taken place between the Borderers on each side, who, as they were never at absolute peace with each other during the cessation of national hostilities, seem, in like manner, to have shunned engaging in violent and sanguinary conflicts, even during the time of war. The English Borderers, who were in the same manner held aliens to the civilized part of the country, insomuch that, by the regulations of the corporation of Newcastle, no burgess could take to his apprentice a youth from the dales of Reed or Tyne, made common cause with those of Scotland, the allegiance of both to their proper country was much loosened; the dalesmen on either side seem to have considered themselves in many respects as a

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separate people, having interests of their own, distinct from, and often hostile to, that of the country to which they were nominal subjects. This gave rise to some singular features in their history."

It is afterwards remarked:—

"These men, who might thus be said to bear but dubious allegiance to their country, were, of all others, the most true of faith to whatever they had pledged their individual word. If it happened that any of them broke his troth, he who had sustained the wrong displayed, at the first public meeting upon the Borders, a glove on the point of a lance, and proclaimed him a perjured and mansworn traitor. This was accounted an insult to the whole clan to which the culprit belonged. If his crime was manifest, there were instances of his being put to death by his kinsmen; but if the accusation was unfounded, the stain upon the honour of the clan was accounted equal to the slaughter of one of its members, and, like that, could only be expiated by deadly feud. Under the terrors of this penalty, the degree of trust that might be reposed in the most desperate of the Border outlaws, is described by Robert Constable, in his account of an interview with the banished Earl of Westmoreland and his unfortunate followers. They desired to get back into England, but were unwilling to trust their fortune without sure guides. 'I promised,' said Constable, 'to get them two guides that would not care to steale, and yet they would not bewray any man that trusts in them for all the gold in Scotland or France. They are my guides and outlaws; if they would betray me they might get their pardons, and cause me to be hanged, but I have tried them ere this.'

"This strict observance of pledged faith tended much to soften the rigours of war; for when a Borderer made a prisoner, he esteemed it wholly unnecessary to lead him into actual captivity or confinement. He simply accepted his word to be a true prisoner, and named a time and place where he expected him to come to treat about his ransom. If they were able to agree, a term was usually assigned for the payment, and security given; if not, the prisoner surrendered himself to the discretion of his captor. But where the interest of both parties pointed so strongly towards the necessity of mutual accommodation, it rarely happened that they did not agree upon terms. Thus, even in the encounters of these rude warriors on either side, the nations maintained the character of honour, courage, and generosity assigned to them by Froissart. ¶ 'Englishmen on the one party, and Scotsmen on the other party, are good men of war; for when they met, there is a hard fight without sparing; there is no hoo (i. e. cessation for parley) between them, as long as spears, swords, axes, or daggers will endure; but they lay on each upon other, and when they be well beaten, and that the one party hath obtained the victory, they then glorify so in their deeds of arms, and are so joyful, that such as be taken they shall be ransomed ere they go out of the field; so that shortly each of them is so content with other, that at their departing courteously, they will say, 'God thank you.' But in fighting one with another, there is no play nor sparing.'

"Of the other qualities and habits of the Borderers we are much left to form our own conjectures. That they were a people of some accomplishment, fond of the legends of their own exploits, and of their own rude poetry and music, is proved by the remains still preserved of both. They were skilful antiquaries, according to Roger North, in whatever concerned their own bounds. Lesley gives them the praise of great and artful eloquence when reduced to plead for their lives; also that they were temperate in food and liquors, and rarely tasted those of an intoxicating quality. Their females caught the warlike spirit of the country, and appear often to have mingled in battle. Fair Maiden Liliard, whose grave is still pointed out upon the field of battle at Ancram-moor, called, from her name, Lilliard's Edge, seems to have been a heroine of this description. And Hollingshed records them at the conflict fought near Naworth, (A. D. 1570,) between Leonard Dacres and Lord Hunsdon; the former had in his company 'many desperate women, who there gave the adventure of their lives, and fought right stoutly.' This is a change in the habits of the other sex which can only be produced by early and daily familiarity with scenes of hazard, blood, and death. The Borderers, however, merited the devoted attachment of their wives, if, as we learn, one principal use of the wealth they obtained by plunder was to bestow it in ornamenting the persons of their partners."

We regret that our limits admit of no further extracts; but those who may be induced to the perusal of the work itself, will find themselves amply recompensed by the curious anecdotes, and views of manners and antiquities, with which it abounds.

In the title-page we find announced, "Original poetry by Mr Scott," but do not understand to what this alludes, not having been fortunate enough to meet with any thing of that description. In the account of Carlisle Castle, however, there is a fragment apparently written about 1745,

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and collected from oral tradition; and, as we agree with the editor, that "nature speaks in her most eloquent strain through every land," we cannot resist the temptation of quoting it.

Carlisle Yetts.

White was the rose in his gay bonnet,
As he faulded me in his broached plaidie;
His hand whilt clasped the truth of luve,
O it was ay in battle readie!
His lang lang hair in yellow hanks
Waved o'er his cheeks sae sweet and ruddie;
But now they wave o'er Carlisle yetts
In dripping ringlets clotting bloodie.

My father's blood's in that flower tap,
My brother's in that hare bell's blossom;
This white rose was steeped in my luve's blood,
An' I'll ay wear it in my bosom.

When I first cam by merry Carlisle,
Was ne'er a town sae sweetly seeming;
The white rose flaunted o'er the wall,
The thistled banners far were streaming!
When I cam next by merry Carlisle,
O sad sad seem'd the town an' eerie!
The auld auld men came out and wept—
'O maiden come ye to seek yere dearie?'

There's ae drap of bluid atween my breasts,
An' twa in my links o' hair so yellow:
The tane I'll near wash, an' the tither ne'er kame,
But I'll sit and pray aneath the willow.
Wae wae upon that cruel heart,
Wae wae upon that hand sae bludie,
Which feasts in our richest Scottish bluid,
An' makes sae mony a doleful widow!

Zapolya: a Christmas Tale. By S. T. Coleridge, Esq. 8vo. pp. 128. London, Fenner, 1817.

There seems to be a great barrenness of invention and dearth of conception among our modern dramatists. We have had nothing either very touching or bold in the shape of native English tragedy for fifty years. The pathos of Otway—the deep and heart-rending distress of Southerne, are not likely to be soon imitated,—and, at all events, the reproduction of them has been so long suspended, as to mark a sensible variation of capacity,—though, even under a more depraved state of morals, it does not strike us that this would mark a change of national taste. To enjoy the strong sensation which flows from a sympathy with theatrical woe, or tenderness, or passion,—it is not necessary that we should be most virtuous. It is not unusual for men to spare a tear for fictitious distress, or illustrious misery, at the very moment, perhaps, when they are wilfully and knowingly in the habitual neglect of some essential and obvious duty. Be that as it may, the pathos and the deep distress are, now, hardly ever seen on our stage. Thomson tried something which was a mixture of both these; but it was a great deal too pure—too raised from active human nature—and had too much to do with the passive excellencies which shine like a winter-moon,—cold, powerless,—and only bright. He took not pains enough to catch hold on any lurking traits of prejudice in favour of peculiar privileges,—or admiration of vigorous villany. Home tried the same track; and, as men of mediocrity and of chastised tastes never fail to do,—fairly run it down. Since that time we have been diluting the highly flavoured strong drink of the Germans—or giving servile and spiritless *versions* from the romantic and poetical among our old English playwrights. We have gone on this way—one man writing his six epics of chivalry, and another his six epics of pure romance,—while, in lyric and impassioned poetry, chords which had not been touched before—have not only been struck—but sounded in all their pitch and compass. The tragic and poetical drama alone is left as it were in despair. That author who must be strictly said to have by far the happiest genius—not of his country merely, but of his age,—and who possesses greater fecundity of invention, and versatility of exertion, than any human being that ever wrote to please a fashion, or to gratify an appetite which he himself had created;—even Scott has hitherto abstained from that species of composition, in which to excel, would be the summit of his fame. All the world knows the merits of Miss Baillie. But none of her plays could ever bear long to be represented on the stage; and her compositions are too philosophically constructed and connected ever to please as dramas. Mr Coleridge himself has tried the bold, vigorous, and sinewy style of tragedy which prevailed from the Elizabethan age down to Dryden's time—when it was corrupted by the Gallicisms, and, to use his own phrase, "dashed and brewed" by the spurious

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transplantations with which he deformed his inventions, and wasted down the vigour of his "mighty line." But REMORSE, though it had many beauties, both of thought and expression, and though its interest rested on nothing strained in incident, or monstrous in the conception of character—nothing in the style of Lewis's Castle Spectre, nor like some late tragedies, yet it possessed too little *adaptation*,—and only a very scanty interest in its plot or scene. It was a classical composition of its kind, however. Its first run was considerable,—it procured for its author a greater honour than has been bestowed on any dramatic poet by an audience since the time of Voltaire;* and though it seems now to be laid by, *not* to remain as a *stock acting play*, yet it will always please in the closet. It has several passages which attest the powerful bard that struck the chord of the lyric ode with a wilder tone, and a more prevailing sway, with a more raised, enthusiastic, and commanding spirit, than any English poet, with the exceptions only of Dryden and of Gray. †

The story of this drama of Zapolya is soon told: Andreas, king of Illyria, is at the point of death, while his queen, Zapolya, is about to be delivered of a child. Andreas dies, leaving as regents of his kingdom, and guardians of his child, the Queen, Prince Emerick, and Raab Kiuprili. Emerick usurps the sovereign power, Zapolya is obliged to fly with her infant to the woods, and Raab Kiuprili, who had openly resisted the tyrant, and dared him to his face, is taken prisoner. Chef Ragozzi, who had chosen to act a part of feigned submission, the more surely to subvert the design of Emerick, furnishes the royal mother with the means of flight for herself and her infant; and, having been enjoined by Emerick to send intimation to the chiefs of the army in different places, of his usurped accession, releases Raab Kiuprili, and sends *him* on one of these errands. Thus ends 'THE PRELUDE, *entitled*, '*The Usurper's Fortune.*'" A civil war ensues, in which Emerick has the best of it for twenty years, at which period the drama itself begins. This Mr Coleridge has called "THE SEQUEL, *entitled*, '*The Usurper's Fate.*'" Young Andreas, the royal infant, had now become a fine spirited youth, with high aspirations of his destiny, a tormenting wish to know his origin, and a restless yearning to learn the fate of his mother, who was supposed to have expired at the time he was found wrapt up in the mantle of a lady who was discovered hard by in a dying state. Andreas was sheltered as an orphan by Bathory, a rude and simple-minded mountaineer, and a dependent on Lady Sarolta, wife to Cassimer, the Lord High Steward of Illyria, under Emerick the usurper, with whom he had taken part against his noble father Raab Kiuprili. The second act introduces Zapolya and Kiuprili in a horrid cave, whither they had fled, and in which they had passed a precarious existence. They are discovered by Glycine, a young girl who had fallen in love with Bethlen, and whose affection is, it strikes us, very beautifully and strikingly pourtrayed. Bethlen Bathory (Andreas's foster name) had gone to the savage wood in which this cavern was situated, on a hint that it was there his mother had breathed her last; and Glycine, prompted by her love, followed him to ascertain his safety. All this passes at the country residence of Cassimer, where his lady, Sarolta, spends her time, in compliance with some early vows, and pious resolutions. Glycine reaches the cave first. Bethlen comes just after she had divulged the object of her visit to its unhappy inmates, and after some maternal forebodings had been excited in the breast of Zapolya by the simple narrative of the love-sick girl. She discovers her son. The scene is one of undoubted beauty, though unfortunately so constructed, as to make impossible that requisite and immediate impression which, on a second reading, a careful reader thinks he *might* have felt from a certain pastoral pathos and picturesque horror which it must be allowed to possess. The plot now, at the third act,

* On one of the nights in which REMORSE was performed at DRURY-LANE, Mr Coleridge appeared in a stage-box, when the audience in the Pit rose simultaneously, as soon as he was observed, and testified their respect to the author of the tragedy by cheers, and clapping hands!

† See the "ODE TO THE DEPARTING YEAR," p. 51, of Mr Coleridge's recent volume of poetry.

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runs quickly forward in its unravelment. Emerick, who had come on a hunting expedition to Casimir's seat, is struck with the beauty of Lady Sarolta. Introduced into her chamber by the treachery of a babbling, weak, and villanous servant, Laska, he attempts to violate the chaste Sarolta. She resists him, till Bethlen comes in fully armed,—we are at a loss to know how. In the fight which ensues, and after Emerick has been disarmed, Casimir comes in, and, though he had been warned of the tyrant's designs on his wife, makes rather absurdly no instant attempt to avenge the insult, but defers his vengeance. In the fourth act, Casimir and Rudolph concert means for avenging themselves on Emerick. Rudolph is to lead the hunt, in which Emerick joins, to a part of the forest where Casimir, with a chosen band, is to set on him. Laska, the villanous servant, is, with Pestalutz, an hired murderer, on an errand of assassination against Casimir,—when they are encountered singly by Bethlen. Laska is about to stab him in the back with a javelin, when the villain is killed by the faithful Glycine, who had been at the cave with Zapolya and Raab Kiuprili, near which the encounter takes place. The heroic girl saves her lover's life with a bow and poisoned arrow, which the half wild Laska had but the moment before laid down there in reserve for Pestalutz, the assassin, to whom he is acting as guide, and who falls, almost at the same moment with himself, under the sword of Bethlen. Casimir, who had been threading this part of the forest, watching to execute his vengeance on Emerick, meets at the cave his injured father, Raab Kiuprili, and is reconciled to him. Emerick at length arrives and stumbles on the dead body of Pestalutz, over which, as Casimir's mantle had been thrown on it, he exults; till, lifting up the mantle, he has just time to vent an exclamation of astonishment,—when Casimir rushes in, and, after a momentary struggle, kills the tyrant with the very sword of Raab Kiuprili, which he had picked up on his entrance to the cave. The confederates against Emerick proclaim Andreas, the quondam Bethlen, King of Illyria. Glycine is found to be the daughter of Chef Ragozzi, who had saved the lives of Zapolya and her son. To this affectionate girl Zapolya gives the hand of her son the king.

Such is this drama, which has glimpses of poetry, and a polish, and a sort of high-toned and picturesque beauty, which, it is likely, no other poet now living could have given to it in an equal degree with Mr Coleridge, without also giving it more force and effect,—without bringing home a tangible interest,—and making it tell on obvious and general feelings. In its present shape, we conceive it has about it that indescribable something, which, if not the dead weight of mediocrity to sink it, will ensure a speedy neglect from the bulk of readers, and check for ever the hopes of Mr Coleridge's admirers in him as a dramatic writer. There is not a tittle of interest in this story as he manages it. To understand the plot, and keep in view its progress, the reader must take some pains; and this is what no reader will ever do, except in a case where his attention may have been called off for a while by some excellent *bye-play*. Our author's idea of passion is by far too *elementary*. He wants *adaptation*. Much of the most striking parts of his story is related, and not acted. He has always before him, as it were, a good map of the chief lines and figures of passion, but then he does not enforce these with the exact sentiment which is to body them forth to the reader or hearer, and to serve also, in pushing on the story, that purpose of dramatic action for which they were copied or sketched out,—both at once, and in the quickest possible manner. But this is what a dramatic writer must do.

Zapolya, then, as a drama, will never succeed. Nor, as a tale, is there any thing in it to captivate. It must exist as a poem; and, even in that case, we decidedly think it is too long. We shall, as fair critics, however, point out a few of the beauties which have occurred to us.

"O most lov'd, most honour'd;
The mystery that struggles in my looks,
Betrayed my whole tale to thee, if it told thee
That I am ignorant; but fear the worst.
And mystery is contagious. *All things here*
Are full of motion: and yet all is silent:
And bad men's hopes infect the good with fears."

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This, we think, is a true, and what constitutes great merit, a succinct and striking picture of the uncertainty, the doubt, and feverish excitement which prevail when contending parties are secretly at work with the great machine of human affairs.

Emerick the usurper tries, in the subsequent passage, we think very forcibly, to stagger the strong representations of honest Raab Kiuprili in favour of the direct line of succession.

" Conscience, good my Lord,
Is but the pulse of reason. Is it conscience,
That a free nation should be handed down,
Like the dull clods beneath our feet, by chance,
And the blind law of lineage? That whether infant,
Or man matur'd, a wise man, or an idiot,
Hero, or natural coward, shall have guidance
Of a free people's destiny, should fall out
In the mere lottery of a reckless nature,
Where few the prizes, and the blanks are countless?
Or haply that a nation's fate should hang
On the bald accident of a midwife's handling
The unclose'd sutures of an infant's skull?"

Zapolya is thus finely and impressingly introduced with her infant in her arms, when she had fled, after the death of her husband, from the usurper of his throne:

" Hush, dear one! hush! my trembling arm disturbs thee!
Thou, the protector of the helpless! Thou,
The widow's husband, and the orphan's father,
Direct my steps! ah whither? O send down
Thy angel to a houseless babe and mother,
Driven forth into the cruel wilderness!
Hush, sweet one, thou art no Hagar's offspring:
Thou art
The rightful heir of an anointed King.
What sounds are those? It is the vesper chaunt
Of labouring men returning to their home!
Their Queen has no home! Hear me, heavenly Father!
And let this darkness—
Be as the shadow of thy outspread wings,
To hide and shield us! Start'st thou in thy slumbers?
Thou canst not dream of savage Emerick.
—Hush!
Betray not thy poor mother! For if they seize thee,
I shall grow mad indeed, and they'll believe
Thy wicked uncle's lie."

Bethlen's agony of uncertainty respecting his parents is finely shewn.—

" Give me a father!
There is a prayer in those uplifted eyes
That seeks high Heaven! But I will overtake it,
And bring it back, and make it plead for me
In thine own heart!"

He speaks now of his mother.

" O that I were diffused among the waters,
That pierce into the secret depths of earth,
And find their way in darkness! Would that I
Could spread myself upon the homeless winds,
And I would seek her! for she is not dead!"

" Eyes fair as thine
Have gazed on me with tears of love and anguish,
Which these eyes saw not, or beheld unconscious;
And tones of anxious fondness, passionate prayers,
Have been talked to me! But this tongue ne'er soothed
A mother's ear, lisping a mother's name!
O at how dear a price have I been lov'd,
And no love could return! One boon then, lady!
Where'er thou bid'st, I go thy faithful soldier,
But first must trace the spot where she lay bleeding
Who gave me life. No more shall boast of ravine
Affront with baser spoil, that sacred forest!
Or, if avengers more than human haunt there,
Take they what shape they list, savage or heavenly,
They shall make answer to me, though my heart's blood
Should be the spell to bind them."

The poetical turn of those four passages, which we are now to give, is so sweet and touching, as to be, with us, a relief from the hurry and vehemence of the impassioned parts.

" O she was innocent!
And to be innocent is Nature's wisdom!
The fledge-dove knows the prowlers of the air,
Fear'd soon as seen, and flutters back to shelter.
And the young steed recoils upon his haunches,
The never yet seen adder's hiss first heard.
O surer than suspicion's hundred eyes
Is that fine sense which to the pure in heart,
By mere oppugnancy of their own goodness,
Reveals the approach of evil."

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"A spring morning,
With its wild gladsome minstrelsy of birds,
And its bright jewelry of flowers and dew drops,
(Each orb'd drop an orb of glory in it,)
Would put them all in eclipse."

"So doth the ignorant distance still delude us!
Thy fancied heaven, dear girl, like that above those,
In its mere self a cold, drear, colourless void,
Seen from below, and in the large, becomes
The bright blue ether, and the seat of Gods!"

"If we but shake a dew drop from a rose,
In vain would we replace it, and as vainly
Restore the tear of wounded modesty
To a maiden's eye familiarized to licence."

"Ragozzi! I applaud,
In thee, the virtuous hope that dares look onward
And keeps the lift-spark warm of future action
Beneath the cloak of patient sufferance.
Act and appear, as time and prudence prompt thee:
I shall not misconceive the part thou play'st.
Mine is an easier part—to brave th' Usurper."

Zapolya, just before she leaves the capital of her dead husband, utters this animated and powerful exclamation, as she looks back on the palace.

"Thou tyrant's den, be called no more a palace!
The orphan's angel at the throne of heaven,
Stands up against thee, and there hover o'er thee
A queen's, a mother's, and a widow's curse.
Henceforth a dragon's haunt, fear and suspicion
Stand centry at thy portals! Faith and honour
Driv'n from the throne, shall leave the attainted nation:
And, for the iniquity that houses in thee,
False glory, thirst of blood, and lust of ravine,
(Fateful conjunction of malignant planets,)
Shall shoot their blastments on the land. The fathers
Henceforth shall have no joy in their young men,
And when they cry: '*Lo! a male child is born!*'
The mother shall make answer with a groan.
For bloody usurpation, like a vulture,
Shall clog its beak within Illyria's heart.
Remorseless slaves of a remorseless tyrant,
They shall be mocked with *sounds* of liberty,
And liberty shall be proclaimed alone,
To thee, O fire! O pestilence! O sword!
Till vengeance hath her fill.—And thou, snatch'd hence,
(*Again to the infant*) Poor friendless fugitive! with mother's wailing,
Offspring of royal Andreas, shalt return
With trump and timbrel-clang, and popular shout,
In triumph to the palace of thy fathers!"

It is surely to be regretted that any thing should prevent a man so highly gifted with poetical language, and knowledge, and fancies, as the author of these passages, from following out his poetical vein to its fullest extent. We could now enter into much speculation about Mr Coleridge's literary character, in which we take a real interest on many accounts,—and have more to say of his poetical genius than a Magazine-Review will allow us to give out at once. We have watched him through his career as an author pretty closely; and, though the fruit of his fair promise has been unfortunately so small—still we think a few hints on the nature of the models which he seems to have studied, (which all men of aspiring genius and a peculiar taste are likely to study, if they take to any models at all,) and on the particular direction of his fancy, might be neither unuseful nor uninstructive as discussion, nor unfair to a man of unquestionable learning and ingenuity, who has suffered much from the injudicious panegyrics of friends, and the exaggerated and malevolent misrepresentations of enemies, — as much almost as from the awkward bent of a restive imagination, and powers of judgment rather imperfectly developed. At another time we mean to take up this important and delicate literary question.

The Botanical Cabinet. By Conrad Loddiges and Sons. The Plates by George Cooke. 4to.

This publication was begun in May last, and a part or number, containing ten plates, is published monthly, price 5s. We have seen the first seven parts, which have just reached our northern metropolis. The style of the

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work is elegant, and it will form a desirable addition to the literary furniture of the drawing-room, or to the library of the green-house. The Loddiges of Hackney have long been distinguished as cultivators of rare and curious plants on the most extensive scale; and their fame is not confined to this country, but, we have access to know, has reached many parts of the Continent of Europe.

The plates of this work are chiefly from drawings by Mr G. Loddiges, taken from plants which come into flower in the collection at Hackney. Some of the figures, such as that of Epacris grandiflora, are excellent, others have a good deal of stiffness and flatness about them, as if they had been copied from a hortus siccus; of this sort is the figure of Elichrysum proliferum, which is not only unnaturally rigid, but greatly deficient in downiness. The drawing of Lantana mista, by Miss Rebello, is admirable. The engraving by Mr G. Cooke, an artist of known abilities, is very good. The colouring is sometimes defective, but not more so than occurs in similar periodical works, which must appear against a certain day; in this case, it will be remembered, no fewer than ten plates *must* be coloured and ready for publication every month.

In the letter-press, the scientific name of the plant, with the Linnæan class and order, are given, then follows a short history of the introduction of the plant into this country, if an exotic, and of any remarkable properties it may happen to possess; and, lastly, the soil and mode of cultivation suited to it, are specified. The great experience of the authors as practical cultivators, must render truly valuable their remarks on the culture of foreign plants in general, and more particularly of such difficult tribes as the heaths and bulbs of the Cape of Good Hope. The finest Cape ericæ may be seen constantly flourishing in perfection at Hackney or Hammersmith, while they are always dwindling and dying at the Jardin des Plantes.

From our recommending the work as an appendage to the drawing-room, our readers will readily perceive that we consider it as calculated rather for the nomenclaturist and amateur cultivator, than for the scientific botanist. Such is the fact. Even where new or little known genera or species are figured, no generic or specific characters are given, nor are any dissections of the parts of fructification afforded. A few marks of discrimination are, indeed, sometimes interspersed with the notices concerning the history and qualities of the plant; but these are not enough. We think that, without detracting from the popular nature of the work, this defect might in future be remedied. Another fault is this; that the scientific name given to the plants is sometimes taken from one author, sometimes from another,—from Linnæus, Willdenow, Brown, Persoon, or Swartz; and the reader is not warned from whom it is taken. This objection might still more easily be removed than the former. The addition of the principal synonyms would be a great improvement, particularly when the plant has long been known by another name than that preferred by Messrs Loddiges; for example, Bletia Tankervillise is perhaps better known by the title of Limodorum, and Elichrysum proliferum by that of Xeranthemum.

We would submit to the taste and judgment of the authors and their artist, whether it would not be proper to avoid, as much as possible, the reducing of the figures of plants below their natural size. The reduction of the figure of Crinum erubescens to one-tenth, in order to display at once to the eye the appearance of a splendid specimen, may perhaps be excused; but one or two flowers of such a plant as the Bletia already mentioned, might have been given of the natural dimensions. Would it not, at any rate, be better, where there is so ample a field for choice, that Mr Loddiges should restrict himself to the smaller delicacies of Flora, which look charming when surrounded with the "meadows of margin" which his quarto size enables him to spread around them.

Some curious, beautiful, and rare plants, which have not yet found their way into our botanical collections at Edinburgh, are here represented; particularly Cymbidium sinense; Gloccinia speciosa, the flower of which vies in brilliancy of colour with the dwarfish Gentian, (Gentiana acaulis;) Gastrolobium bilobum, Be-

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gonia suaveolens, and Struthiola incana. This last, we are told, possesses, in a remarkable degree, the quality of giving out its scent at night, so as to perfume the whole greenhouse in which it stands; and it is added, that the fragrance is not less rich, and more delicate, than that of the Peruvian heliotrope.

Amidst such rarities, we certainly did not expect to meet with any very common plant, more particularly such a plant as Veronica chamædrys, or Germander-speedwell, which is a weed of as frequent occurrence about Edinburgh, and, we believe, all parts of Britain, as the vulgar dandelion itself. It is, indeed, not destitute of beauty; but the blossom is extremely fugacious, or apt to fall off. Instead, however, of offering some apology for publishing a figure of such a plant, we were really surprised to find the authors gravely assuring us, that "it requires no sort of shelter during winter, and that it may be readily increased by dividing the roots!" Is it possible that Messrs Loddiges immure themselves so constantly and completely within the walls of their green-houses and conservatories, as to keep themselves unacquainted with the native plants which flourish under the hedges in every part of the island, from Cornwall to Caithness? We would rather consider the introduction of the Germander-speedwell as an oversight to be ascribed to the bustle inseparable from the necessity of periodical publication. We would recommend to the authors to take more time. Of this fact we are pretty certain, that the subscribers to the Botanical Cabinet would not find any fault with them for occasionally publishing only five plants in the month instead of ten, when this limitation was required for the convenience of the artists, and for ensuring the correct colouring and finishing of the plates.

We trust that our criticisms will not be thought too severe, nor their motive be misconstrued. If we had not thought well of the work, we should not have taken the trouble to throw out these hints for its improvement.

FOREIGN JOURNALS.

WERNER.

(By M. Héron de Villefosse, Inspector of the Royal Corps of Mines, Associate of the Royal Academy of Sciences, &c. From Annales des Mines, *Deuxième Livraison,* 1817.*)*

[Some writers in this country have more than once attempted to persuade the public, that the late illustrious Werner was a mere visionary, or, at best, a man fitted only for establishing distinctions amongst minerals. They have denied to him all originality of views in regard to the structure and formation of the earth,—his mode of investigating and tracing the connections and relations of rocks and minerals, has been held in derision, and his talents as a useful practical miner, have been altogether disregarded. This presumption and ignorance have not failed to call forth the indignation of all those interested in the advancement of one of the most important departments of natural knowledge, and the attacks of Chenevix, and other philosophers, have been triumphantly answered by the general adoption of Werner's views in this island, and by the establishment of Societies,* whose object is not the support of any particular theory of the earth, but the investigation of its structure and composition, according to the method first pointed out by Werner. The members of these distinguished associations have, within a few years, brought before the public a vast body of important information in regard to the mineralogical structure of this island, which cannot fail to be of the greatest utility to the country in general, by the clue it will afford to the miner in his researches after useful minerals. This, indeed, is another proof of the value of Werner's ideas, that lead not, as has been contemptuously remarked, always into the mazes of German metaphysics, or physics,—but to those objects that add to the greatness of a country, and

* Wernerian Natural History Society,—Geological Society of London,—Royal Geological Society of Cornwall.

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to the comforts of its population. Werner, indeed, was the most learned miner of his time, he was the greatest benefactor to the important art of mining the world ever saw,—from his lecture-room proceeded all the most accomplished miners of the time when he flourished,—and these valuable men carried from Freyberg to the farthest corners of the earth, an admiration of the virtues and of the extraordinary talents and acquirements of their illustrious master. It affords us much pleasure to have it in our power to add to our feeble testimony of the splendid talents of the ever to be regretted and excellent Werner, that of his pupil, M. Villefosse, one of the most eminent scientific and practical miners in France.]

Several months have elapsed since the journals announced the death of M. Werner, Member of the Council of Mines of Freyberg, in Saxony, Knight of the Royal Order of Merit, and Foreign Associate of the Royal Institute of France. More than one voice, doubtless, has been raised in Germany to pay homage to the talents and the virtues of this illustrious German. In many a subterranean mine-work the miners of Saxony will have been already melted into tears by the melancholy words, "Our Werner is no more!" This simple announcement must have excited the most lively regrets even in the remotest countries, where the success of the mines was in a great measure the result of the labours of Werner, as it will be, during many ages, the finest monument of his glory.

In one point of view, it would be of great advantage that Werner should be still better known in France than he generally is. For a long time, indeed, the reputation of the professor of Freyberg has been, so to speak, classical among the French mineralogists, but it appears to be confined to the cabinets of our men of science, and has scarcely found its way into our mines. This, however, is its proper place; it is from thence that we now propose to do homage to the memory of this true friend of the miners, who consecrated his life to the advancement of their extensive, important, and arduous labours, and who has thus acquired an incontestable right to the gratitude of every country which possesses mines.

Born about the middle of the last century in the iron-work of which his father was proprietor, in the vicinity of Werhau, in Lusatia, Werner perceived, almost from his infancy, that the miners stood in need of a guide capable of leading them into new luminous paths,—of enabling them to distinguish mineral substances with promptitude and certainty,—of enlightening them in their researches, and in all their labours,—of collecting, comparing, and classifying the facts observed in the bosom of the earth;—in short, of forming, for the benefit of the mines of all countries, a common treasure of acquired knowledge. He resolved to be that guide, and he speedily became so.

Having been appointed an officer of the mines at Freyberg, he constantly directed his studies towards that association which he had proposed to himself to effect between the practice of the art of mining, and the numerous sciences from which it may derive assistance. Werner, from observations on the mountains and mines of Saxony, anticipated, in some measure, the identity of structure which has been since observed in so many countries, in the rocks and mineral masses which constitute the exterior crust of our globe. From that time the mines of the whole world presented themselves to his mind as *a subterraneous country*, where the same general principles ought to prevail,—where the same terms of art, whatever might be the difference of idioms, ought to facilitate a useful correspondence not only between the miners of all countries, but also, and above all, between the man of science and the workman. It was in the school of the mines of Freyberg, founded by the king of Saxony in the year 1766, that Werner occupied himself incessantly in laying down these principles, and fixing that language. He succeeded in this in the happiest manner, by attaching a precise and intelligible meaning to the expressions employed by him in describing objects, by adopting almost always the terms of common language; and he often did not even disdain to employ the phraseology in familiar use among the workmen.

To produce this important revolution in the art of mining, which has for a long time made Freyberg be re-

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garded as the metropolis of that *subterranean country*, Werner has published two works, neither of which exceeds a small volume in duodecimo. The first treats of the knowledge of minerals according to their external appearance, the second of the arrangement of the repositories of minerals in the bosom of the earth.

These works, originally written in German, have been translated into almost every language, and particularly into French.* The principles of the first have been developed, with their application, in the "Traité de Mineralogie," which M. Brochant, chief engineer of the mines of France, has published, according to the school of Werner; the second has been the subject of a judicious analysis, which M. Coquebert de Montbret has inserted in the *Journal de Mines*, No. 18, and for a complete translation of which we are indebted to the principal engineer Daubuisson. The peculiar excellence of these two works of Werner is, that they are quite intelligible to every miner. They have been sometimes compared with the works of other scientific mineralogists, but to be convinced that there is no room for such a comparison, it is sufficient to consider that the objects of these authors were very different. Werner wished to enlighten practical men; he wished to promote the prosperity of those mines and iron-works, which are the chief resource of so many countries; for that purpose, Werner brought down science to the level of the workman, who gratefully seized the hand held out to his assistance. If, on the contrary, he had attempted to lead the workman to the heights of science, the latter would have refused to follow his steps.

It is not only by his writings that Werner has deserved well of the *subterranean country*, by rendering science popular there; as a professor, equally skilful and indefatigable, he taught during many years in the school of mines at Freyberg, the knowledge of simple minerals *(oryctognosy)*, of rocks, and of the repositories of minerals *(geognosy)*; the art of working mines and of conducting iron-works. Those who were destined to direct the most celebrated establishments, not only in Germany, but also in distant countries, crowded to his lectures; and the audience of the professor of Freyberg had the appearance of a congress of miners from every nation.

His pupils, who all loved as much as they admired him, were soon dispersed throughout the mines of almost every country, full of ardour for the prosperity of these works, and possessed of the knowledge necessary to secure it. Every where they established by their success the utility of the doctrines of Werner. His school was no longer confined to Freyberg, but extended throughout all the mines of the world; and the result of that sort of apostleship which was exercised in the name of Werner alone, by so great a number of his most distinguished scholars, is, that his principles and his language have become familiar to the practical miners of almost every country, from the mines of the Altaian mountains, even to those of Mexico.

Many Frenchmen had the happiness of studying under Werner in the school of Freyberg. MM. Brochant de Villiers, Daubuisson, de Bonnard, chief engineers of mines, have enjoyed this advantage, as well as the author of the present Notice; and many others of our countrymen. None of us can recollect without emotion the engaging frankness with which Werner welcomed Frenchmen. In the journeys which he made to Paris, our most illustrious Savans had themselves an opportunity of appreciating all the amiable qualities which that celebrated man united to the depth and variety of his knowledge.

May the homage which we pay to his memory in a Journal devoted to the service of the mines of France, contribute to the success of the efforts which the royal corps of engineers of mines have already made, and of those which they still contemplate, for the purpose of giving to the French workmen the benefit of that practical knowledge for which so many foreigners are indebted to the instructions of Werner.

* The works above alluded to are, the Treatise on the External Character of Minerals, of which we have an English translation by Mr Weaver of Dublin, the other is the work on the Natural History of Veins, which has been translated by Dr Anderson of Leith.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE LEGEND OF ST ROSALIE.

ALL that of fair the earth may boast
Are met within thy matchless coast,
And bask beneath thy summer sky,
Renown'd romantic Sicily!
A marvellous tale of thine I crave,—
When pestilence, with pernicious breath,
Spread desolation round, and death,
And of thy garden made a grave.
O'er that vast amphitheatre
Of pride, by poets named of old,
The orchard, and the shell of gold,
Hush'd were the tones of human stir;—
Palermo raised her spiry head,
Frowning,—a city of the dead;
And, in a vale so bright—so fair—
Seem'd hope, united to despair:
The sun shone out; a sulphurous hue
O'erspread the sky, and dimm'd his light;
The pale moon, as she wander'd through,
Was lost amid the haze of night:
The air was poisoned; in an hour
Age withered, for the spoiler's power
Beyond the strength of man was great,
Dealing to all an equal fate:
The infant sickened at its play;
And Beauty, though it bloom'd at morn,
Ere evening of its light was shorn,
Ordained to fall a timeless prey:
There Manhood perished in its pride:
No dirge was sung o'er them that died;
No knell was toll'd; all silently
Within the twilight's ominous gloom,
High—low—from age to infancy,
Were mingled in one common tomb.
At morning's dawn, the tramp of feet
Was heard upon the silent street;
Now louder, clearer wax'd the sound;
Who came?—an aged abbot dress'd
In sable cowl, and sackcloth vest,
By sickly thousands circled round:
Wild and distemper'd did he fly;
Bewilder'd glanced his hazel eye;
His feet unsandal'd and unshod;
And in his palsied hand he bore,
And wav'd on high a long white rod,
Such as the magi had of yore.
He mounted on a ledge of stone;
The assembled crowd he gaz'd upon,
And there 'twas silence all; intent
On him each moveless eye was bent;
And open every listener's ear,
The tidings of his call to hear—
"'Twas at the dead of night," he said,
"I lay upon the rushy bed
Within my solitary cell;—
I durst not sleep, I could not pray,
Nor there repose till dawn of day;—
As toll'd the midnight bell,
Myself from off the couch I rais'd,
And on the moonless heavens I gaz'd:
When lo! a dim light, in the sky,
Appall'd my heart, and fix'd mine eye;
As backward silently I drew,
Broader it wax'd, and brighter grew:
Mysterious awe, and silent dread
Of something, that I could not name,
Weigh'd on my breast, and chill'd my frame,
While, as my bosom wildly stirr'd,
The hum of heavenly tones I heard,
And thus a silver tongue began—
'Put away fear, and look, O man,
On her, who comes from heaven, to be
Of good to earth the messenger:
Put away fear, and look on me,
Tidings of good to thine and thee,
In the drooping vales of Sicily,
Brought me down, and bring me here!'
"It ceas'd; and reverently I rais'd
My eye to hers:—around her blaz'd
A halo of celestial light,
Which seem'd more beautiful, more bright,
And lovely, 'mid surrounding night;—
My terrors fled; I saw her stand,
More glorious far than aught that earth
Within its circuit e'er gave birth,
A palm branch in her hand,
And round her twining vestures white,
That, with their lustre, dimm'd the sight,
Terror dwells not with purity—
And here on me it deign'd to shine;
Oh! as, entranc'd, I fixed mine eye
Upon the countenance divine,
The frailties of my state I felt,
And downward on my knees I knelt:
As from the comb the honey drips,
So came these words from sainted lips,—
'Once like thyself on earth I dwelt;
But not with trifles, that employ
The gay and giddy, sought I joy;
From man to solitude I stealt,
Ere fifteen summer suns had shed
Their ripening influence o'er my head;
For secret inspirations came,
To warm, with holy zeal, my frame:
Yet dare not I to man recount,
How I my princely kindred left;
How angels bore me up the mount,
And pointed me a secret cleft,
Where night by night, and day by day,
I might repose,—and fast,—and pray,—
And banish earthly reveries;—
A token which will not decay,
Remains that so I did, my knees
Have worn the very rock away!
'No tokens reach'd my palace home;
And none have learn'd what did betide,

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Though twice nine generations from
The hour that saw my death, have died!—
Celestial minds, believe me, bear
A sympathy for mortal care;
And shed a healing holiness,
O'er virtues struggling with distress;
I saw, with pity in mine eye,
The land of my nativity;
I heard, with anguish at my heart,
Her groans; and pray'd I might depart
To earthly realms, and there essay
The blots of misery to efface;
The sick in heart to cheer; and chase
The spirit of the plague away.
'Tis granted me; where now I tell,
Go thou at morning light; my bones,
Unburied, mingle with the stones,
In Pelegrino's mountain cell:—
Thrice round the walls let them be borne
With anthems to the Prince of Peace;
And ere the smile of second morn,
Palermo's pestilence shall cease!'
"With rapture, and in reverence,
I clasp'd my palms, and bow'd my head;
Upward I turn'd my eyes; but thence
The glorious messenger had fled;
And, in the aisle of fretted stone,
Upon the couch, I knelt alone!"

He ceas'd: and, from the market place,
The innumerous multitude depart;
The smile of joy on every face,
And rapture in each heart:
To Pelegrino's mount they march'd;
The abbot clomb the craggy mound;
The crevice of the rock he search'd;
And, mingling with the stones around,—
What was his wonder, there to see
The saintly bones of Rosalie!
The fathers took their robes of white,
The crosier, and the cross; delight
Shone in the abbot's eye;
For, as they slowly pass'd in turn,
He held within a silver urn
The relics of her sanctity.
Then, two and two, the vestals pass'd;
A reverential look they cast
Upon the holy man;
And aye the cross was sign'd betwixt,
In term of sacred awe: and next
The choristers began,
In mingling melody, to raise
The hymn of penitence and praise:
Thrice, round Palermo's walls they went
With feet unshod, and faces bent
On earth, in deep humility;
Lo! halting, as they gazed on high,
The melting vapours died away;
Again burst out the azure sky,—
The cloudless canopy of day:
The glorious sun shone on the hills;
And gently swept the southern breeze
Along the vales, and wav'd the trees,
That dimm'd, with shade, the mountain rills.
O'er every tower and turret head,
The standard's flaunting length unroll'd;
And, as the joyful tidings sped,
The bells in every convent toll'd,
As starting from the visions wild
Of wretchedness, Palermo smil'd!
On Monte Pelegrino stands
A chapel, rais'd by grateful hands,
Above the cave—upon the spot,
Where sacred solitude she sought;
Her sainted image lies enshrin'd
Within the cleft, where, day by day,
She pour'd to heaven her fervent mind,
And kneeling, wore the rock away!
Fair Sicily! 'twas thine to know
The work of wonder wrought for thee;
And, grateful, it was thine to show
Thy reverence for fair Rosalie;
Since now she reigns, of saints by far
The greatest in thy kalendar!

LADY MARGARET.

[The following fragments of a Scottish ballad were discovered tied up with a number of law papers, principally dated 1590. Some lines, where it was deemed practicable, have been completed by conjecture; the MS. is thus endorsed, in a male hand, "my umquhill deir sister, my lady Eufame's sang, quhilk she would sing unto hir lute."]

LADY MARGARETTE was as faire as May,
As won in the north countrie;—
Alace! that she luvit a pirate knicht,
Wha wanderit o'er the sea!

They couldna meit in the greene forest,
Nor yet in hall or bower,
But they'd walk on the lone sea sandes,
At the mirk and midnicht hour.

And they'd walk on the lonelie sandes,
By the wann licht o' the moon,
Till the sun raise red o'er yonder fell,
And glittered the waves abune.

Beware, beware, ye maidinnis fair,
Of ugsome kelpie sprite!—
But maist beware o' your ain sweet luve,
Gin ye walk by the pale moon licht!

"Now Willie, if you luve me weel,
As aft you've said and sworn,
Oh wedd me in yon halie kirk
Before my babie's borne!"

"Now Margarett, if you luve me weel,
Urge no such thing to be,
Till I returne from my father's lande,
That's farr beyond the sea."

With flowing tide, and shipp of pride,
That false knicht sail'd away,
And many a tear his true love shedd,
I wott, that drearie day.

And many a langsome look she cast
Atween the sea and the air,
And all to descry that statlie shipp,—
In lyfe she ne'er saw mair.

"I weipe by day, I weipe by nicht,
The salt tearis drown my ee;
I weary for my ain sweet luve,
But his face I cannot see."

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When six sad months were past and gone,
Her cheeke wext pale and leanne;
Her golden belt was all too tight,
Too short her robes of greene.

To braid her hair she didna care,
Nor sett her golden kell;
And the tears that cam fra her downcast eyne
Dryed aye just where they fell.

She fand nae rest in the green forest,
Nor yet in hall or bower,
But she was pleased wi' the lonlie sandes,
At the mirk and midnicht hour.

There to the wave she'd fondlie rave,
And answere the sea-bird's cry;—
"I see the mast—he comes at last;"
He never mair cam nigh.

"I weipe by day, I weipe by nicht,
I weipe false Willie's scorn;
But ne'er shall I weipe the world's spite
When my poor babie's born."

Now up and spak her sister Anne
In the chamber where she lay,—
"I trow I heard fair Margarett cry
On the shore, lang lang or day.

"The tide came on wi' the wild wind's moan,
An hour I couldna sleip;
I trow I heard a lady groan,
But and a babie weip."

"Now hold your tongue, my sister Anne,
Think no such things to be,
'Twas but the seugh o' the yew-tree boughs,
In the wild blast mournfullie."

It was on a nicht, and a mirk mirk nicht,
That forth would Margarett fare;
And she's gane to yon lone kirk-yard;
Hir kin lay buried there.

Now she's gane to hir father's grave,
And touched the marble chest;
"Oh father deir, mak room for mee,
I fain wald find some rest."

"Awa, awa, thou ill woman,
An ill death may'st thou die,
Were my coffine all the warld wyde,
There's nae room for such as thee."

Now she's gane to her mother's tomb,
And kissed the feet of stone;
"Oh, mother sweit, mak room for mee,—
My dayes on earth are done."

"Away, away, deir Margarett,
Away, and lett mee sleip;
Thou must not stretch thee at my syde,
And I downa hear thee weip."

Now she's gane to her brother's grave,
Ance deir to him was shee;—
"Is there anie room in thy coffine, brother,
For I fain would reste with thee."

"There's no room in my coffine sister,
Save for my trustie brand,
And that should strike thee to the heart,
Had I now a fleshlie hand."

This lady turn'd her by the shore,
To reach her stately tower,
And she was aware of a babie wan
As the water-lilie flower.

He wore a garlande o' the green sea-weed,
And a robe o' the white sea-foam,—
"Now faire befalle thee, babie mine,
I bidd thee welcome home."

"When I was in life, Lady Margarett,
Such kindnesse you did not keip;
The cradle you gave was a rocking wave,
And the sea-gull to sing me asleip."

"Thou sleip'st nott worse beneath the bryne,
Than I on my silken bed;
I cannot rest for those hands of thine
That freeze my brow to lead.

Thou sleip'st not worse beneath the sand,
Than I amydd the down;
I cannot rest for thy little feet
That patter my bed aroun.

My days of youth are days of ruth,
I've mickle dreed o' pine;
And sorrow's cup whilk I've drunk up,
Is bitterer far than bryne."

"Soe I will take a plunge, babie,
I'll take a plunge with thee,
We'll soundlier sleep in others arms,
For all the roaringe sea."

Now Willie was sailing his good shipp,
I wot on a simmer's day,
When up there rose a cloud i' the south,
A dark and drumlie grey.

And howdinge saftlie o'er the waves,
Between that cloud and the sea,
Twa snow-white birds he thought cam on,
And marvel'd what they might be!

But when they nigh'd the statlie shipp,
Pale grew the pirate band,
For there stood a lady cladd in whyte,
Wi' a young boy in her hand.

"That shape is like my Margarett's,
As like as like may be;
But when I look on that blue swollen face,
I canna think it she.

"That neck is as white as Margarett's,
As lang that yellow hair;
But how gat ye that bloodie wound,
Bound up with green sea-ware?"

"Leap down, leap down, thou false traitor,
Leap down, leap down, and see;
If thou leaps't not down to me and my babe,
We'll climb the shipp to thee."

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

In former numbers of the Scots Magazine, we have in the course of the last five years given some interesting details of the Carr Rock, and the beacon erecting upon it; and we had at length the reasonable prospect of a successful termination to that arduous undertaking. It is, therefore, with no small concern that we have to notice the loss which the shipping of the Firths of Forth and Tay have sustained by the fall of this Beacon. The building was visited by one of the shipmasters in the lighthouse service on the 10th November, and was then found to be in perfect order. But, on the evening of the 14th, a very heavy swell of sea came ashore, and, on the 15th, the *ground swell* still continued, with foggy weather, and the rock could not be discerned till the afternoon of that day, when the sea was observed to break upon it with great violence, and it was then discovered that a great part of the building had been thrown down.

The Carr Rock forms the extreme point of that dangerous reef of sunken rocks, extending about two miles from the shore at Fifeness, which has been the cause of many shipwrecks, notwithstanding all the improvements adopted on this part of the coast;—a circumstance which has rendered the erection of a beacon upon it a work of very considerable interest.

The Beacon Rock is 72 feet in length, but its greatest breadth is only 23 feet. At high water of spring tides, the foundation of the building is at least 16 feet under the level of the sea. The Beacon is circular, measuring 18 feet in diameter at the base —the height of the masonry was 36 feet, and from thence to the ball on the top of the cupola, it measured five feet more, or 41 feet in all.—The stones of this building were curiously indented into one another, and the several courses were connected by joggels, while the beds of the stones were let into each other in such a manner, that these indentations formed so many girths or bands round the building. For greater safety, and to avoid any weakness in the walls, the beacon was so constructed, that the *entrance door* was above the balcony, being placed immediately under the cupola, the ascent to which was by means of a trap-ladder. The interior of this tower was designed for a *Tide-machine*, to be employed in constantly tolling the large bell, which was to form the cupola of the building. By this contrivance the mariner was to be forewarned of his danger under night, and in foggy weather; where a beacon of the common form would have been comparatively of less use; by this means also the building was to be guarded from accident, by the too near approach of vessels. Upon the whole, there was something in this undertaking which gave it a particular interest with the curious, while it was calculated to render so much benefit to the mariner, that we cannot help again regretting that it had not succeeded to the utmost, as preparations were just making for the construction of the machinery from a model long since made.

This building is understood to have cost about L. 3000, and bade fair to possess all the advantages of a most excellent and complete land-mark. When, therefore, we appreciate its value, either by the inconveniences which shipping must sustain in consequenee of its temporary removal, or consider the boldness of the design, and the energy and economy with which it has been pursued for no less than *five successive seasons*, we still hope that some means or other will be devised for pointing out the place and dangers of the Carr Rock.

The loss of this improvement upon the coast will be severely felt by the shipping interest, especially of the Firths of Forth and Tay; but as we have just learned that several of the courses of the masonry are still quite entire on the rock, and these the most expensive and difficult of erection, *having required more than three of the five seasons* to complete them; we may yet hope that at least a solid and permanent beacon of stone will be placed on this fatal reef, which would doubtless prove highly useful, though not possessed of all the advantages of the proposed Tide-machine. Along with a solid beacon, the security of the extensive shipping on this coast may be still further promoted, by means of *cross* or *leading lights* upon the Island of May, distant about six miles from the Carr Rock; so that the mariner, having these in view, may the better know his position under night, and so be enabled to make free with his course. This may in some degree be considered as stretching a cord or band of light across the Firth, from the Isle of May to the *foul grounds* at Fifeness; and would be such a direction for the Carr Rock, under night, as is provided and found to answer at the Fern Isles, for the Goldstone Rock, near Holy Island, on the coast of Northumberland.

What may be the ultimate resolution of the Lighthouse Board with regard to the Carr Rock, whether it should be pointed

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out to the mariner by a beacon of stone or iron, or by a large floating buoy at or near the place of danger, or by an additional lighthouse upon the Island of May, in the form of a leading light, as has been proposed, we know not; but we apprehend, that where the danger to shipping is so imminent, its place should one way or other be made as obvious as possible to the numerous class of shipping which frequent this part of the coast.

Were any argument of ours necessary to shew the utility of this measure beyond the great exertions already made by the Lighthouse Board in the late works of the beacon, we might refer to the numerous accidents occasioned by this rock, recorded from time to time in the public prints of the day. We have, indeed, learned, that very lately no fewer than fifty-six coasting vessels sailed close past the Carr Rock in the course of a single tide. This was in the day time, and in easy weather; but a sudden gale, or approaching darkness, might have proved fatal to some of them.

*Service of Plate presented to Sir H. Davy.**—The proprietors of the collieries in the counties of Northumberland and Durham have presented to Sir H. Davy a service of plate, valued, as it is said, at nearly L. 2000. It is a tribute of respect to which he is justly entitled, from the rare union of profound scientific research with the direct application of it to purposes of practical utility, which characterize his inquiries into the properties of the fire-damp, and the methods by which the fatal accidents may be prevented which have so frequently occurred from its explosion.

Patent Malt.—There are few patents that promise to be of such great national importance as one lately obtained by D. Wheeler and Co. for a new and improved method of preparing brown malt.

The essential difference between ale and porter is, that the latter liquor is of a much deeper colour than the former, and has besides a peculiar empyreumatic flavour, not easily defined, though universally known. This colour and this flavour were originally obtained by mixing with the pale malt commonly used for brewing ale a certain proportion of malt dried at a somewhat higher temperature, and, in consequence of being thus slightly scorched, capable of communicating to the water in which it is infused a deep tan-brown colour, and a peculiar flavour.

In the composition of the best genuine porter, two parts of brown malt are required to three parts of pale malt. The price of the former is generally about seven-eighths of the latter; but the proportion of saccharine matter which it contains does not, according to the highest estimate, exceed one-half of that afforded by the pale malt, and probably on an average scarcely amounts to one-fifth. Taking, however, the proportion of sugar in brown malt even at about one-half, it follows that the porter brewers are paying for the colour and flavour of their liquor one-fifth of the entire cost of their malt. The price of this latter article has of late years increased so enormously, and the mutual competition of the manufacturers has become so active, as to offer temptations, not easily resisted, either of supplying the flavour and colour of porter by the use of Spanish liquorice, burned sugar, and other similar ingredients, which, however innocent in themselves, are prohibited by the Legislature, or of diminishing the strength of the liquor: thus rendering it more liable to become sour or vapid by keeping, and hence bringing on the necessity of using alkaline substances to correct the first, and deleterious narcotics, such as cocculus indicus, to supply the deficiency of alcohol. The result of all this is, that a large quantity of ill-made noxious liquor is forced upon the public, that the diminished strength of such as is made of allowed ingredients drives multitudes of the lower classes to the use of gin and opium, and that the scandalous frequency of frauds on this branch of the revenue has entirely abolished all moral feeling on the subject, and reduced it to a mere calculation of expediency.

It appears that the patentees have discovered that, by exposing common malt to a temperature of about 430° Fahr. in close vessels, it acquires a dark chocolate-brown colour, and is rendered so soluble in water, either hot or cold, that, when mixed with pale malt in the proportion of one-eightieth, it communicates to the liquor the perfect colour and flavour of porter.

From this it follows that the brewer, by employing four parts of pale malt and one-twentieth of a part of patent malt, may obtain a stronger liquor than from his usual proportions of three parts of pale and two parts of brown malt. The saving thus occasioned ought in equity to be divided between the patentees, the brewer, and the public. The revenue will be benefited by the increased consumption which will necessarily result from an improvement in the quality of the porter: and both the revenue and public morals will derive advantage

* Two other candidates, it would appear, have come forward to claim the merit of inventing similar lamps, viz. Mr Stephenson and Dr Clannie; the former of whom has been patronized by a number of the coalmasters near Newcastle, who have lately held a meeting, and raised a sum by subscription for his remuneration. In an early number we hope to lay before our readers a view of the comparative merits of the several candidates.

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from the greatly diminished temptation to fraudulent practices.

Aerolite at Paris.—We are informed from the French papers, that an aerolite of considerable size fell at Paris, in the Rue de Richlieu, on the morning of Nov. 3. It descended with so much force as to displace part of the pavement, and to sink to some depth into the earth. It was attended by a sulphureous smell, and seemed to have been recently in a state of ignition or combustion.

Mr Hunter of Edinburgh has invented an instrument which is of great importance to the navigator. From two altitudes of the sun, and the interval of time between the observations, he can determine, within five minutes after the second observation, the latitude of the place, the hour from noon, and the variation of the compass. According to the common form of calculation for double altitudes, the latitude by account is supposed to be known, which in the use of this instrument is not necessary. It has been tried in several examples, and the results always found very near the truth. If a vessel was driven from her course by storms or currents, if the reckoning was altogether lost, and the mariner could not get a meridian observation, with this instrument and a chronometer, he could, in a few minutes after the second observation, ascertain his position on the ocean with accuracy. An invention of so much utility in navigation is worthy of encouragement from those concerned in the commerce of the country.

The celebrated Moses of Michael Angelo, a collossal figure of the most exquisite proportions, and finished in a style that to this day is unrivalled, having, by the Pope's permission, been withdrawn from its niche, in St Pietro in Vinculo, in order that Mr Day, an English artist, might take a mould of it to bring to England; it is with pleasure, we inform the public, that it has arrived safe, and is now setting up in company with the Monte-Cavallo figure, in that capacious room in the stable-yard, which the Prince of Wales allotted to these exhibitions of collossal sculpture. It is to be followed by the Marcus-Aurelius of the Capitol. When these noble objects are got together, it will be, in the eyes of men of taste and talents, the finest room in the world.

Mr Asbury has invented an instrument for puncturing the drum of the ear, in cases of deafness; and two instances are recorded in which he has operated successfully; the individuals were immediately restored to hearing. Will the operation be permanently beneficial?

John Millington, Esq. Lecturer on Mechanical Subjects in the Royal Institution for the three last seasons, has been appointed Professor of Mechanics, and the various instruments and machines connected with this department have been placed under his care and superintendence. He has particularly directed his attention to the supply of all those deficiencies which have arisen from the want of sufficient funds, and the want of a permanent person, sufficiently versed in the actual manipulations of art, to instruct and explain them, and bring them into a state of useful activity.

The construction and properties of Bramah's Patent Lock, in which the confidence of the public has so long reposed, having become a subject of discussion at the meetings of the Royal Institution, Mr Bramah attended, and exhibited a large model, explanatory of he principles of his late father's lock, and his own improvements upon it, to the institution; when every one was satisfied with the almost utter impossibility of opening locks upon his construction, their security depending upon the doctrine of combinations or multiplication of numbers into each other, which is known to increase in the most rapid proportion. Thus a lock of five sliders admits of 3000 variations, while one of eight, which are commonly made, will have no less than 1,935,360 changes, or, in other words, that number of attempts at making a key, or at picking it, may be made, before it can be opened. Such was the case in the lifetime of its late ingenious inventor; but, by the simple improvement of his sons, the present manufacturers, this difficulty may be increased an hundred fold, or in a greater proportion, without at all adding to the complication of the lock.

Poonah, or Indian Painting.—This is a method of painting lately introduced from India, by which (with Poonah guides) the ladies of London have been enabled to decorate their dresses, &c. so as to give the appearance of real fruit or flowers. It is also applied to painting landscapes, animals, &c. We are also informed, that it is not necessary the pupil should be previously acquainted with drawing, and that it is done in less than half the usual time. Mr Middleton has commenced teaching the whole of this elegant art in Edinburgh.

*** Some additions and corrections to the valuable paper of Professor Jameson's at page 367 of our last number have been supplied by the same eminent naturalist, which we request our readers to introduce.

Under *Quadrupeds and Birds*, l. 11., for *outside*, read *inside*, and, after the next paragraph, insert the following:

"*Eggs.*—Collections of eggs of birds form a very interesting and beautiful department of a museum. The fresh eggs should be blown, and carefully packed in cotton, or tow, or moss. Before blowing, it is advisable to make drawings of the eggs, as the abstraction of their contents frequently occasions a considerable change in their colour, delineation of colour, and lustre of the shell.

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"*Nests.*—All the remarkable nests of the larger birds ought to be collected, and in every instance those of the smaller species."

Under *Molluscous Animals*, add the following paragraph:

"As many of the molluscous animals rapidly change, even when put into spirits, it is advisable to make models and drawings of them before immersion."

Under *Crustaceous Animals*, p. 368. l. 7. for *anus*, read *mouth*.

To Section 3. on *Minerals*, p. 369. after "wrapping paper," add "When the crystals are very delicate, then the specimen must be glewed to the bottom of a box, and fastened with strings."

Under Section 7. after "blow-pipe," l. 9. insert "and bottle with muriatic acid."

FRANCE.

The Society for the Encouragement of the Arts at Paris, has proposed the following prizes for the year 1818:—

1500 francs for a machine for making pack-thread; 1000 francs for a machine for cutting the fur from the skins used in hat-making; 6000 francs for the manufacture of steel-wire for needles; 3000 francs for manufacturing articles of cast-iron; 2000 francs for a method of salting meat; 2000 francs for the manufacture of isinglass; 2000 francs for manufacturing enamelled metal vases; 1500 francs for the cultivation of the plants which supply pot-ash; 1000 francs for making pipes without seams; 600 francs for the discovery of stones for lithography; and 1200 francs for their artificial composition.

The Society has deferred until 1819 the distribution of the following prizes:—1200 francs for the manufacture of artificial precious stones; 3000 francs for the discovery of a certain process for drying meat; and 1000 francs for the cultivation of oleaginous plants: the prize for the preservation of woollen cloth, which, in consideration of its importance, has been raised to the sum of 3000 francs; and that of 1000 francs for the construction of a mill for skinning dried vegetables, such as pease, beans, &c. will not be awarded till 1820.

The Society has besides proposed nine others, viz.—1*st*, One of 2000 francs, to be given in 1819, to the person who shall raise, by the most certain and economical processes, and with the least possible loss, the greatest number of white Chinese silk-worms.

2*d*, One of 600 francs, in 1818, for the invention of an extremely economical, agreeable, and wholesome fermented drink, which may be prepared by the poorest cultivators, and fit for the use of persons employed in out-door labour.

3*d*, One of 1200 francs, in 1818, for the manufacture of an unalterable green colour, of fine quality, and preferable to Scheele's green.

4*th*, One of 500 francs, in 1818, for the discovery of the best method of grinding oil and water colours, to the degree of tenuity required by artists.

5*th*, One of 2000 francs, in 1819, for the manufacture of animal charcoal prepared from other substances than bone, and without the employment of pot-ash; and which may be as good and cheap as charcoal prepared from bones.

6*th*, One of 1200 francs, in 1819, for the manufacture of a new kind of economical floor-cloth, composed of strong paper covered with varnish.

7*th*, One of 2000 francs, in 1819, for the application of the steam-engine to printing-presses.

8*th*, One of 2000 francs, in 1819, for the discovery of a vegetable substance consisting of natural or prepared leaves, fit to be employed as a substitute for mulberry leaves in feeding silk-worms.

9*th*, One of 3000 francs, in 1821, for a metal or alloy, which may be substituted for iron and steel, in the construction of machines for grinding vegetables.

M. Teissier has lately been engaged in researches on the period of gestation of the females of several domestic animals. The following is a summary of the results:—

Out of 575 cows, 21 calved between the 240th and 270th day: mean term 259¼—544 between the 270th and 299th: mean term 282—10 between the 299th and 321st: mean term 303. Thus, between the shortest and longest gestation, there is a difference of 81 days, that is, more than one-fourth of the mean duration.

Out of 277 mares, 23 foaled between the 322d and 330th day: mean term 326—227 between the 330th and 359th: mean term 344¼—28 between the 361st and 419th: mean term 390. Between the shortest and longest gestation there was an interval of 97 days; as before, more than one-fourth of the mean duration.

Observations were made on two she-asses only: one foaled on the 380th, and the other on the 391st day.

Out of 912 ewes, 140 lambed between the 146th and 150th day: mean term 148—676 between the 150th and 154th: mean term 152—96 between the 154th and 161st: mean term 157¼. Here the extreme interval is only 15 days, to a mean duration of 152—that is, only one-tenth.

The mean term of seven female buffaloes was 308 days, and the extreme difference 27 days.

The extreme gestations of 25 sows were 109 and 143 days.

The extreme terms of gestation of 172 rabbits, were 27 and 35 days; difference 8.

In the duration of the incubation of domestic fowls, differences of from 5 to 16

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days were observed. These cannot be ascribed to accidental differences of temperature; for, according to the observations of M. Geoffroi de Saint Hilaire, the same differences are found in the duration of the developement of the chickens hatched by the Egyptians in ovens.

From the whole of his observations, M. Teissier infers, that the period of gestation is extremely variable in every species. Its prolongation does not seem to depend either upon the age or more or less robust constitution of the female, or upon the diet, the breed, the season, or the bulk of the fœtus, and still less upon the phases of the moon.

The grand work on Egypt, of which the first two parts appeared under Napoleon in Paris, will soon, it seems, be completed; the French minister of the interior having exerted himself to that effect.

The *Lactuca virosa* is recommended by Dr Mondat, of Paris, as a remedy for the dropsy. The *Lactuca sylvestris* was several years ago recommended for the same purpose, by Dr Collin, of Vienna.

The Chevalier Millin, the celebrated antiquary, who has been for twenty-five years past engaged in procuring drawings of all such engraved stones as are of interest to history, literature, or the arts, is about to commence the publication of them, in monthly numbers, under the title of *Pierres gravées inédites tirées des plus célèbres Cabinets de l'Europe*. Each number will contain ten plates in 8vo, engraved in the line manner by the ablest artists, and accompanied with descriptive letter-press.

M. Engelmann has commenced printing, at his lithographic press, a series of plates illustrative of the manners and customs of the Russians, from designs by Houbigant. The work will form a folio volume, containing 60 plates, which will be published in ten parts.

M. Gail has published a second volume of his work, entitled *Le Philologue*, or Historical, Military, and Geographical Researches, more especially designed to illustrate Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon.

Monsieur N. L. Lemercier, Professor of the Athenæum of Paris, has published the first volume of a *Cours Analytique de Literature Generale*. It will be succeeded by three other volumes, which are to appear before the end of the present year.

ITALY.

The Abbate Angelo Mai, whose recent discoveries among the *Codices rescripti* in the Ambrosian library at Milan, we have had formerly occasion to notice, has added to the number the Mœso-Gothic translation of the thirteen proto-canonical Epistles of St Paul, made in the fourth century, by Bishop Ulphilas, the loss of which has been hitherto a subject of regret. It fills two voluminous manuscripts, and is covered by Latin writing of a later period. We know from the unanimous testimony of the ancient historians, that Ulphilas (who was called the Moses of his time) translated the whole Bible, except, perhaps, the two books of Kings. The whole of this work was lost, till at length, in 1665, the *Codex argenteus* of Upsal, containing a considerable part of the four Evangelists, was published by Francis Junius. The learned Francis Knittel, upon examining a *Codex palimpsestus*, in the library of Wolfenbuttel, found upon eight of the pages several verses of the translation of the Epistle to the Romans, by Ulphilas. These fragments he published in 1762. The MSS. now discovered by M. Mai are much more extensive, and appear to have been written between the 5th and 6th century. What is wanting of the Epistles in one of the MSS. is contained in the other; eight of the Epistles are entire in both, so as to afford the advantage of comparison. The characters are large and handsome. The titles of the Epistles are at the head of the MSS. and there are marginal references in the same language. Of this discovery, M. Mai designs to publish an extensive specimen, in a preliminary dissertation. A gentleman of Milan, equally distinguished by erudition and liberality, has had a complete fount of Ulphilanian types, of different sizes, cast by an able founder, both for the text and notes. Besides these two MSS. M. Mai has collected twenty more pages in the Mœso-Gothic language, extracted from several other *Codices palimpsesti*, in the same library. In these pages are found those parts of the Gospels by Ulphilas, which are wanting in the mutilated edition of the *Codex argenteus*, together with great part of the homilies or commentaries, and, what is still more interesting, fragments of the books of Esdras and Nehemiah—a discovery of the more importance, as not the smallest portion of Ulphilas's version of the Old Testament was hitherto known to exist. To accompany this considerable part of the labours of the Gothic prelate, M. Mai is preparing a new Mœso-Gothic Lexicon, which will prodigiously increase the number of words of that language, and prove a most valuable present to the philologists of all those nations whose languages are of German origin.

M. Bettoni, printer, of Padua, has circulated the prospectus of a Collection of Lives and Portraits of Illustrious Men, in 4to. The list comprehends 79 names of distinguished persons, of all ages and countries, excepting modern Italy. Among these are Alfred the Great, Bacon, Harvey, Hume, Locke, Marlborough, Milton, Newton, Robertson, Shakespeare, and Washington. Each life will be printed in Latin, Italian, English, French, and German.

M. Benvenuti, of Florence, has invented

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a machine, by means of which any person, though unacquainted with drawing, is enabled to copy paintings in oil or fresco, and even to trace the contour of statues and other round bodies, either of the natural size, or reduced to one-twelfth. This machine, which is far superior to the pantograph, will be particularly useful for frescoes; it is even asserted, that in this department it will do as much in one day as formerly required the labour of a month.

GERMANY.

Some of the professors of the University of Halle have undertaken an Universal Encyclopædia of the Arts and Sciences, which is to consist of thirty volumes in 4to. Four hundred men of letters have, it is said, already engaged in this work; and each article is to be signed by its author;—they have published a specimen. It is expected to be finished in about six years.

The second volume of an interesting work, by Charles L. Von Haller, has been published. It is entitled, "Restoration of the Science of Politics; or, Theory of the Natural State of Society."

Professor Dahlmann, of Kiel, is preparing for the press the manuscript Chronicle of Ditmar, by Neocorus, which had been lost, and lately recovered. This work is of great importance for the illustration of the ancient history of Germany.

RUSSIA.

In the peninsula of Kamtschatka, the natural small-pox used to carry off a great number of persons every year. Dr Malafejew, who resides in that country, has, however, found means to check its ravages. —Being at Ochotsk in 1814, he brought thence by sea some variolous matter. He immediately innoculated, at the harbour of St Peter and St Paul, 500 persons, some of them adults, and sent a portion of the matter to other parts of Kamtschatka. Convinced by experience of the beneficial effect of inoculation, the Kamtschadales and Koraiks now cheerfully allow it to be practised on themselves and their children. Dr Malafejew has instructed some native Kamtschadales at each ostrog and village in the process: he himself superintends the operations, and gives certificates of merit to such as distinguish themselves by zeal and skill. About 3000 persons have hitherto been inoculated. The climate of Kamtschatka is naturally healthy, and the natives of the peninsula frequently attain a very advanced age, without the infirmities generally attendant on it. There is, for instance, now living at Soposchnoje, a Kamtschadale woman, named Daria Slobodtschinowa, who, at the age of 130 years, possesses all her faculties unimpaired. Thus, too, Dr Malafejew found at Kirgamizkoi, a Kamtschadale upwards of 100 years old, who could read the Bible without spectacles, and explain it to his countrymen. The foreigners resident in Kamtschatka have lately begun to maintain a private correspondence with England and America.

WORKS PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

LONDON.

Mr C. Phillips, the barrister, has in the press, a Life of his Friend, the Right Hon. John Philpot Curran, in a quarto volume, embellished with a portrait. This work will comprise an account of the legal, political, and private life of Mr Curran; together with anecdotes and characters of his most distinguished contemporaries, many of them collected from his own lips.

The Letters from the Hon. Hor. Walpole, to George Montagu, Esq. from the year 1736 to 1770, will soon be published from the originals, in the possession of the editor.

Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson is preparing for publication, a Narrative of an Overland Journey from India, performed in the course of the present year, through the principal cities of Persia, part of Armenia, Georgia, over the Caucasus into Russia, through the territory inhabited by the Cossacks of the Don, to Warsaw, and thence through Berlin to Hamburgh. The work will be accompanied with engravings illustrative of the more remarkable antiquities in those countries, the costume of the inhabitants, and other interesting subjects, from drawings executed in the course of the journey.

Mr Nichols will shortly publish, in two vols. 8vo, a new edition of the Life and Errors of John Dunton, citizen of London; with the lives and characters of more than one thousand contemporary divines, and other persons of literary eminence: To which will be added, Dunton's Conversations in Ireland; selections from his other genuine works, and a portrait of the author.

Mr W. Upcott, of the London Institution, will publish in the course of the ensuing month, in three volumes octavo, a Bibliographical Account of the principal Works relating to English Topography; containing a complete collation of the more im-

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portant and rare productions connected with the local History of England; the quantity of letter-press comprised in each volume, lists of the plates, and separate pedigrees, so as to form an useful and necessary guide to all collectors of books on this interesting subject.

In a few days will be published, Messrs Hooker and Taylor's work on the Mosses of Great Britain and Ireland, which will contain figures and descriptions of each species, native of these islands; together with plates, illustrative of the Genera.

Mr Hooker has likewise the first number of a work ready for publication, on the new and rare, or little known, Exotic Cryptogamic Plants; with which will be incorporated those collected in South America, by Messrs Humboldt and Bonpland; and various other interesting subjects, in the possession of the author and his botanical friends. This will have numerous plates, and appear in an octavo volume.

A Walk through Switzerland in September 1816, is preparing for publication.

In a few days will be published, Tales of Wonder, of Humour, and of Sentiment. By Anne and Annabella Plumptre. 3 vols. L. 1, 1s.

Dr Carey has in forwardness an elocutory edition of Thomson's Seasons; with metrical notes to each line, to regulate the enunciation, as in his Introduction to English Composition and Elocution.

Early in February will be published, a Translation of Tasso's Jerusalem; by the Rev. J. H. Hunt, late fellow of Trinity College.

Mr Henry Sass, student of the Royal Academy of Arts, is about to publish by subscription, a Journey to Rome and Naples, by way of Paris, Lyons, Mount Cenis, Turin, Genoa; by Sea to Leghorn, Pisa, Rome, Naples, including visits to Portici, Herculaneum, Pompeia, Vesuvius, (which was ascended during the time of an eruption) and the classic ground of Pozzuoli and Baiæ; returning by the Adriatic, Bologna, Venice, Vicenza, Verona, Milan, the Simplon, and Geneva.

Madame de Stael's new work on the French Revolution has been purchased by a London bookseller; it will be printed both in French and English, under the superintendence of Mr William Schlegel, the literary executor of the baroness. The work will be comprised in three octavo volumes, and will appear in London and at Paris on the same day.

A Biographical View of the Public and Private Life of the Princess Charlotte, will appear in a few days.

Early in December will be published, the Juvenile Botanist's Companion, or Complete Guide to the Vegetable Kingdom; by Robert John Thornton, M. D.

Original Letters from Baxter, Prior, Bolingbroke, Pope, Cheyne, Hartley, &c. with biographical illustrations, edited by Mrs Rebecca Warner of Bath, will soon appear in octavo.

A new work on the subject of Saving Banks will shortly make its appearance, which will be found particularly useful to all connected with these institutions, entitled, "Annals of Banks for Savings." Part the first, containing details of the rise and progress of these institutions; observations on their importance, tendency, and constitution; an account of the earliest establishments of this description; full particulars for their formation, management, &c.; methods of keeping accounts and calculating interest; useful hints and suggestions; and reports and communications from the principal banks in Great Britain, &c.

Remarks Moral, Practical, and Facetious, on various interesting subjects, selected from the writings of the late William Hutton, Esq. of Birmingham, will appear in the middle of December.

Mr W. B. Gurney is preparing for the press the Trials of Brandreth, Turner, Ludlam, and Weightman, for high treason at Derby, from his short-hand notes.

Early next year will be published in parts, about forty Views of Pompeii, engraved in mezzotinto, in imitation of the original drawings taken on the spot in the present year by George Townley, Esq.

Mr Murray's historical work on the Voyages and Discoveries in Africa, is about to appear in French, from the press of Mongie.

On the 1st of January will be published the first number of a new monthly miscellany, entitled, Arlis's Pocket Magazine of Classical and Polite Literature, or Gems of Genius.

Woman, a poem; by Eaton Stannard Barrett, Esq., author of the Heroine, small 8vo, with several wood-cuts from designs by Thurston, will appear in a few days.

Mr Woodley, Editor of the Cornwall Gazette, and author of various works in verse and prose, is preparing for publication an Account of his Literary Life, which will contain anecdotes of many distinguished living characters.

The Rev. Anthony Davidson, of South Damerham, Wilts, is about to publish by subscription the Poems of Ossian turned into blank verse, in an 8vo volume.

Mr Jones, optician, is about to publish the late Mr Ferguson's Astronomical Planisphere of the Heavens, and likewise his Astronomical Rotula, with the Calculations continued by the Rev. L. Evans.

Dr Armstrong of Sunderland has in the press a work on Scarlet Fever, Measles, Consumption, &c. His volume on Typhus Fever is also reprinting with considerable additions.

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Speedily will be published, in one volume 8vo, Rome, Naples, and Florence, in 1817, consisting of sketches of the present state of society and manners, the arts, literature, &c. of those cities, with numerous anecdotes and conversations of distinguished writers, English and foreign.

Mr Britton is preparing for publication, as the fifth volume of his Architectural Antiquities, a Chronological Illustration of the Ancient Architecture of Great Britain, containing a series of eight engravings. It will form ten numbers, the first of which will appear next spring.

Mr George Dyer has in the press, "The Privileges of the University of Cambridge;" containing a Chronological Table of all its Charters, together with a Series of the principal Charters themselves, intended to serve as a Summary of Annals to its History.

A volume, entitled, "Warnings of Bitter Experience," is ready for publishing by subscription, for the purpose of creating a fund to make accurate experiments in different parts of the three kingdoms, to ascertain the most efficacious means for preventing scarcity or exorbitant price of provisions, by discovering the best and cheapest method for preserving grain from the depredations of vermin, and the vitiating effects of humidity; that the superabundance of one crop, compensating for deficiency in another, may supersede importation.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

AGRICULTURE.

The Code of Agriculture, including Observations on Gardens, Woods, and Plantations. By the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart. 8vo. L. 1, 1s.

ASTRONOMY.

Evening Amusements for 1818. By William Frend, Esq.

BIOGRAPHY.

Scripture Portraits, or Biographical Memoirs of distinguished Characters recorded in the Old Testament. By the Rev. Robert Stevenson of Castle Hedingham. 2 vols. 12mo. 8s.

The Northern Courts, containing Memoirs of the Sovereigns of Sweden and Denmark since 1766; including the extraordinary Vicissitudes of the Lives of the Grandchildren of George II. By John Brown, Esq. 2 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 1s.

A Biographical Peerage of Ireland; in which are the Memoirs and Characters of the most celebrated Persons of each Family, and the Arms engraven on Wood. Royal 8vo. 9s.

Shakespeare and his Times; including the Biography of the Poet; Criticisms on his Genius and Writings; a Disquisition on the Object of his Sonnets; a new Chronology of his Plays; and a History of the Manners, Customs, Amusements, Superstitions, Poetry, and elegant Literature of his Age. By Nathan Drake, M. D. 2 vols. 4to. L. 5, 5s.; large paper, L. 7, 7s.

Memoirs of the Life of the Princess Charlotte. 6d.

Particulars of the Death of the Princess Charlotte. 6d.

The real Cause of the Princess Charlotte's Death. 1s. 6d.

Circumstantial Detail of the Last Moments of the Princess Charlotte; including a Biographical Memoir of her Life.

A Biographical Peerage of the Empire of Great Britain: in which are Memoirs and Characters of the most celebrated Persons of each Family. 18mo. Vol. IV.

CLASSICS.

The Select Works of Plotinus, the great Restorer of the Philosophy of Plato, and Extracts from the Treatise of Synesius on Providence; translated from the Greek; with an introduction, containing the Substance of Porphyry's Life of Plotinus; by T. Taylor. 8vo. 18s.

Cellarius's Maps. 4to. 10s. 6d.

Spelman's Xenophon. 12mo. 7s.

COMMERCE.

Three Letters in French:—1. Upon the Trade of Great Britain with the Continent. —2. A Reply to the same by an Englishman.—3. In answer to that.

DIVINITY.

The Duty and Benefit of Retirement: a Sermon preached at Salter's Hall Meeting-House, on Sunday, April 20, 1777. By the late Rev. Hugh Worthington. 8vo. 1s.

A Course of Sermons for the Lord's Day throughout the Year; including Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Ascension Day. Adapted to and chiefly taken from the Service of the Day. By Joseph Holden Pott, A. M. Archdeacon of London. 2 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 1s.

Preparatory Observations on the Study of Religion, in Eight Lectures, delivered before the Children of a Family in High

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Life. By a Clergyman of the Church of England. 2s. 6d.

A Sermon on Regeneration and Conversion. By John Napleton, D. D. Canon Residentiary of Hereford. 1s.

A Discourse occasioned by the Death of the Rev. John Prior Estlin, LL.D., delivered in Lewin's Mead Meeting, Bristol, August 24, 1817, by the Rev. James Manning. To which is subjoined, the Funeral Service; by Lant Carpenter, LL.D. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

Dr Bell's System of Instruction broken into Questions and Answers, for the Use of Masters and Teachers in the National Schools. By the Rev. Fred. Iremonger. 1s. 6d.

Questions for the different Elementary Books used in the different National Schools. By the Rev. Fred. Iremonger. 1s. 6d.

Method of Teaching Children to Read, upon the principle discovered by Sieur Berthaud, improved and adapted to the English Language. By Mrs Williams. 12mo. 9s.

Self Cultivation recommended; or, Hints to a Youth leaving School. By Isaac Taylor of Ongar. Flsc. 8vo. 5s. 6d.

The Day's Occupation; or, the Employment of Time: a work containing the Elements of useful Knowledge for Children; from the French of Jauffret. 3s.

A Concise System of Commercial Arithmetic, adapted to modern practice: with an Appendix, containing a series of queries on bills and merchants' accounts; by J. Morrison, accountant, master of the Mercantile Academy, Leeds. 12mo. 4s. 6d.

Spanish Nature displayed; by J. Dufief. 2 vols. 8vo. L.1, 11s. 6d.

French and English Dictionary; by J. Dufief. 3 vols. 12mo. L. 2, 12s. 6d.

The Chinese Grammar; by W. Morrison. 4to. L.1, 11s. 6d.

Family Suppers, or Evening Entertainment for Young People: consisting of elegant Moral Tales, in which instruction is blended with amusement; translated from the French of Madame Delafaye; by Lady Mary H******, with sixteen engravings. 2 vols. 6s.—and in French, 7s.

The Little Bearnais: consisting of Moral Lessons for Youth, translated from the French of Madame Delafaye, author of the "Six Tales of Youth," &c. with sixteen engravings. 4 vols. 10s. 6d.—The same in French, 12s.

Moral and Amusing Recreations; or, Tales for the use of Young Ladies entering the World, from the French of the Countess de Choiseul. 1 vol. 12mo. with six engravings. 5s. Also in French, 6s.

A Concise Grammar of the Romaic, or Modern Greek Language; with phrases and dialogues on the most familiar subjects; compiled by H. Robertson, M. D. during a residence of some years in the Levant.

HISTORY.

A Complete History of the Spanish Inquisition, from the period of its Establishment by Ferdinand V. to the present time, drawn from most authentic documents; by Don Juan Antonio Llorente, one of the principal Officers of the Inquisitorial Court, &c. translated from the Spanish.

An Universal History, in twenty-four Books; translated from the German of John Müller. 3 vols. 8vo.

History of New South Wales, by P. O'Hara, Esq. 8vo. 14s.

A History of Europe, from the Treaty of Amiens, in 1802, to the Pacification of Paris in 1815; by Charles Coote, LL.D. 8vo. 12s.

History of Ancient Europe, from the earliest Times to the Subversion of the Western Empire; with a Survey of the most important Revolutions in Asia and Africa; by Dr Russell. 3 vols. 8vo. L. 2, 2s.

A History of St Domingo, from its Discovery by Columbus to the present Time.

Pinnock's improved edition of Goldsmith's History of England, from the Invasion of Julius Cæsar to the death of George II. with a Continuation to the defeat of the Algerines in 1816; with a Dictionary Biographical, Historical, &c. &c. 12mo.

Russia, being a complete Picture of that Empire, including a full description of its government, laws, religion, commerce, &c.; by C. G. Hunter, Esq. 10s. 6d.

The History of the British Revolution of 1688-9, recording all the events connected with that transaction in England, Scotland, and Ireland, down to the capitulation of Limerick, in 1691, in the last of these kingdoms, inclusive; by George Moore, Esq. 14s.

History of the Wars of the French Revolution; comprising the Civil History of Great Britain and France, from the breaking out of the war in 1792, to the end of the second reign of the Emperor Napoleon, and the Restoration of a General Peace; by Edward Baines, in eight monthly parts, 5s. each, or in 2 vols. 4to. L. 1, each.

The History and Antiquities of Gainsborough; together with an Account of Stow, principally in illustration of its claim to be considered as the Roman Sidnacester; by W. Stark; illustrated with plates by Lowrie, Storer, and Pollard. 8vo.

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tions, &c. To which are added, Biographical Notices of eminent Men, and copious appendices of its population, revenue, commerce, and literature; by the late John Warburton, Esq., the late Rev. James Whitelaw, and the Rev. R. Walsh, M.R.I.A. dedicated, by permission, to his Excellency Lord Whitworth. 2 vols. 4to. illustrated by numerous views of the principal buildings, ancient and modern, maps of the city, &c.

LAW.

A Practical Treatise on Life Annuities; including the Annuity Acts of the 17th and 53d Geo. III. Also a Synopsis of all the principal adjudged Cases under the first Act; together with select, modern, and useful precedents, &c. &c.; by Frederick Blayney. 7s. 6d.

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A Treatise on the Physiology and Diseases of the Ear, containing a comparative View of its Structure and Functions, and of its various Diseases; by J. H. Curtis, Esq. Aurist to the Prince Regent.

Physiological Lectures, delivered before the Royal College of Surgeons of London, in the year 1817; by John Abernethy, F. R. S. &c.

Bancroft's Sequel to his Essay on Yellow-Fever. 8vo. 14s.

An Essay on the disorders of Old Age, and on the means for prolonging Human Life; by Ant. Carlisle, F. R. S. &c. 8vo. 5s.

A Letter to the Commissioners for Transports, on the Non-Contagious Nature of the Yellow-Fever; by James Victen, M. D. 8vo.

Report on the proper State and Management of the Hospitals for insane Persons at Paris; translated from an official Report on the Hospitals in general of that Metropolis; with an Appendix. 8vo. 2s.

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The Meteorologist's Tables, for recording Diurnal Observations of the Weather, as well as annual Results. 4s.

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The Sacred Edict, containing sixteen Maxims of the Emperor Kang-he, amplified by his Son, the Emperor Yoong-Ching; together with a Paraphrase on the whole, by a Mandarin. Translated from the Chinese, and illustrated by Notes; by the Rev. William Milner, Protestant Missionary at Malacca.

An Essay on the Strength and Stress of Timber, founded on Experiments performed at the Royal Military Academy on Specimens selected from the Arsenal and Dock-Yard, Woolwich; by Peter Barlow, of the Royal Military Academy. 8vo. 18s.

The Pamphleteer, No. XX. 6s. 6d.

Johnstone's London Commercial Guide, and Street Directory; on a new and more efficient principle than any yet established; in four parts; corrected to August 31, 1817.

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The Bachelor and the Married Man, or the Equilibrium of the "Balance of Comfort." 3 vols. 10s. 6d.

Helen Monteagle; by Alicia Lefanu. 3 vols. L. 1, 1s.

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Sincere Burst of Feeling, an Ode to the Memory of the Princess Charlotte. 4to. 2s.

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Observations on the Circumstances which influence the Condition of the labouring Classes of Society; by John Barton. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

Collection of State Trials and Proceedings for High Treason, from the earliest period to 1783, compiled by T. B. Howell, and continued to the present time by Thomas Jones Howell, Esq. Vol. XXIII. Royal 8vo. L. 1, 11s. 6d.

Considerations on the Poor Laws; by

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John Davison, M. A. of Oriel College, Oxford. 8vo. 4s.

Letters from the Cape of Good Hope, in reply to Mr Warden, with Extracts from the great Work now compiling under the inspection of the Emperor Napoleon. 8vo. 8s.

An Historical Research into the Nature of the Balance of Power in Europe; by Gould Francis Leckie. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

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Personal Observations, made during the Progress of the British Embassy through China, and on its Voyage to and from that Country, in the years 1816 and 1817; by Clark Abel, Physician and Naturalist to the Embassy. 1 vol. 4to.

Memoirs on European and Asiatic Turkey, from the manuscript journals of modern travellers in those countries; by Robert Walpole, A.M. With plates.

Tour through the Netherlands in 1816 and 1817; by J. Smithers. 8vo. 9s.

EDINBURGH.

Mandeville, a Tale of the Seventeenth Century in England; by William Godwin. 3 vols. 12mo. L. 1, 1s.

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Reflections on the Death of the Princess Charlotte of Wales; by a Lady. 8vo. sd. 1s.

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Fragment, suggested by a bright Gleam of Sunshine, Nov. 17th, 1817, two days before the Funeral of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. 4to. 2s. 6d.

Elegy to the Memory of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales; by Mrs Cockle. 4to. 2s.

Thomas of Reading, or the sixe worthie Yeomen of the West; now the sixth time corrected and enlarged; by T. D.; being a *fac-simile* of the Original, printed in London, by Eliz. Allde for Robert Bird. 4to. 10s. 6d.

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Principles of the Constitution of Governments; by William Cunningham, Esq. of Enterkine. 2d edit. 12mo. bds. 6s.

Sermons; by John B. Romeyn, D. D. Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Cedar Street, New York. Two vols. in one. 8vo. bds. 10s. 6d.

Remarks on the Plans and Publications of Robert Owen, Esq. of New Lanark; by John Brown, minister of the Associate Congregation, Biggar. 1s. 6d.

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MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

Two new laws have been presented to the Chamber of Deputies—one for regulating the liberty of the press, and the other proposing a plan for recruiting the army. The law regarding the press is so far more liberal than those which have been already enforced upon this subject, that it releases from responsibility the printer or publisher of any work, provided the author be known; nor is any publication to be liable to prosecution until it is actually in circulation, whereas, under the existing laws, a work may be seized while in the possession of the printer or publisher. All periodical journals, or other periodical works are, however, kept under the same thraldom as formerly, and, to avoid the inconvenience of constant renewal of the law, it is intended that the bill now proposed shall continue in force until 1st January 1821.

The Minister of War proposes to complete the actual corps of the army by ballot, and by encouraging voluntary enlistment. In the speech in which he introduces the plan, he professed, in the strongest terms, that the policy of France was entirely pacific, and that, far from wishing to attack other powers, the recruiting of the army was solely directed to the securing of her own independence.

The concordat with the Pope has been submitted to the Chamber, together with a project of a law founded upon it. This treaty leaves the nomination of bishops entirely with the King, while the Pope enjoys the right of canonical investiture.

The Chamber of Deputies, in the address presented to the King at its opening, complain grievously of the conditions imposed upon France by the late treaties. "Your people (it is observed) have submitted with grief, but in silence, to the treaties of November 1815; after having made the utmost efforts for executing them faithfully, after years of calamity have infinitely increased the rigour of the explicit conditions of these treaties, we cannot believe that they conceal such exorbitant consequences, as none of the contracting parties could have foreseen. The wisdom of your Majesty will be understood and seconded by the enlightened policy presiding over the destinies of the other people of Europe; an equitable limit will be placed to our enormous sacrifices; the termination of the too oppressive charge of occupation will be hastened; our country will at length be free. Then, and only then, France will be able to taste the fruits of peace, to confirm her credit, reanimate her internal prosperity, and to resume her rank among nations.

NETHERLANDS.

A serious misunderstanding lately took place between the King and the Prince of Orange, occasioned by a refusal of the Count Goltz, the under Minister of War, to gratify the Prince, in granting certain military promotions, for which he had expressed himself anxious. The King, at least in the first instance, has supported his Minister; in consequence of which the Prince has resigned his office of Commander in Chief, and First Minister of War, and declared he would not serve in any public capacity while Count Goltz remained in office.

GERMANY.

The German papers contain a formal disavowal, by the Duchess of Parma, late Empress of France, of the protest attributed to her in the public journals, and which was noticed at p. 74 of this volume.

From Vienna it is stated, that a conscription is to be resorted to in the Austrian dominions. The new law is to include all the male subjects of Austria, between the ages of 20 and 45, who are to be divided into three classes; the first class, from the age of 20 to 25, to be, in case of war, drafted into regiments of the line; the second, from 25 to 35, to form a landwehr or militia, and to be called into actual service in any part of the Austrian territories, in case of their being menaced by an enemy; and the third class, from 35 to 45, are to form a stationary guard, and not to be compellable to quit their respective cantons.

In consequence of a note lately presented to the directional Government of Switzerland, by the Ministers of Austria and France, complaining of seditious pamph-

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lets emanating from the press of that country, the President has invited the cantons to watch over the journals and other publications, for the purpose of preventing sentiments being circulated which may give offence to the neighbouring powers.

Lavalette now resides six miles from Munich, under a different name; Fouche is at Prague; Beauharnois resides at Munich; and the ex-Queen of Holland at Augsburg.

SPAIN.

An article in the Spanish journals states, that there was so strong a hurricane at Alicant on the 13th October, that the waves raised by it carried off the pieces of artillery from one of the bastions, and dashed them so violently against the neighbouring houses, that part of them were thrown down. In a quarter of an hour the city was inundated, and presented the appearance of a great shipwreck.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

The wishes of the inhabitants of the Ionian Islands are likely to be gratified by the preservation of Parga from the dominion of the Turks. At present, we understand that his Excellency General Maitland is at Corfu, personally superintending, and carrying into effect various regulations, which he has suggested for the prosperity and happiness of these interesting people.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor Alexander is giving every encouragement to the restoration of Moscow, the ancient capital of the empire. An English gentleman lately arrived from thence, mentions that the city has been much improved in consequence of the conflagration, which destroyed chiefly the old houses and wooden buildings, which were very numerous. Palaces are now rising from the ashes of those buildings, and the old nobility, who have always resided at Moscow, many of whom are immensely rich, vie with each other in adding splendour to the Court. The foundation stone of a magnificent church was lately laid by the Emperor in person, attended by the Archbishop, and a numerous suite of ecclesiastics.

TURKEY.

The foreign papers contain intelligence from Constantinople of the total defeat, capture, and death, of the rebel Toutchi Ouglow. He had succeeded in placing himself at the head of an army of 15,000 men, but was unable to withstand the force led against him by Haznadar-Oglow de Giarick. This event will, it is expected, completely re-establish tranquillity in Asia Minor.

A dreadful earthquake lately occurred at Vastissa, during which the sea retired from its bed, leaving the ships in the harbour completely dry, and then returning with proportioned fury, covered a considerable part of the dry land. The city, consisting of 800 houses, was almost entirely destroyed, besides several villages, and about 50 of the inhabitants also lost their lives. A promontory near the mouth of the river Gaidouroupinieti, suddenly sunk, after emitting clouds of thick smoke.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

According to the latest intelligence from India, it appears that the disturbances there were nearly suppressed. Advices from Madras, of the 24th June, mention that the insurrection in Cuttack appeared to have been finally quelled, by the prompt and decisive measures adopted by General Martindell; and though the Pindarees still maintained a sort of predatory warfare, not a doubt was entertained, that in a short time tranquillity would be re-established throughout the whole of the Company's possessions.

DUTCH COLONIES.

Fears are entertained of the Dutch possessions in the East being soon entirely lost to Holland. Accounts have been received, that the natives of the Isle of Lupperwaro, near Amboyna, had risen and murdered the resident and his family, with the whole of the garrison; and a detachment of about 200 sent from Amboyna, after being allowed to land, shared the same fate. In the meantime, the natives of Amboyna also rose in rebellion, and forced all the Dutch inhabitants to seek shelter under the forts. These forts had been frequently and desperately attacked by the natives; who, singular as it may appear, actually waged war under British colours. The East India Company's ship left Suprao in July, and it was then expected that the natives would have complete possession of the island in a few days. To these unpleasant facts it is added, that the whole of the Celebes and the Molucca Islands have manifested a like spirit of disaffection, and considerable apprehensions were entertained for the safety of Java itself.

AFRICA.

ALGIERS.

Recent accounts state, that great discontents prevail against the present Dey, in consequence of his tyrannical conduct. The people murmur, and apprehensions are entertained that they will proceed to seek a redress of their grievances by the usual constitutional method of murdering their

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sovereign. The plague still continues to rage, and persons who have fled from the scene of contagion state that between 700 and 800 die daily.

EGYPT.

The Bashaw or Viceroy of Egypt has re-opened the intercourse with India, by way of the Red Sea, as formerly, for the purpose of obtaining supplies of Indian merchandise. The goods are first brought to Suez, and conveyed from thence across the isthmus to Alexandria. The Bashaw paid his late tribute to the Grand Seignor in Mocha coffee.

AMERICA.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Dreadful Conflagrations at Newfoundland.—This ill-fated colony was twice in the course of last month visited by conflagration. The first, on the 7th of November, broke out late at night; and the houses being almost all of wood, the rage of the flames was not stayed till 135 houses were burnt to the ground, rendering houseless about 1100 inhabitants, and destroying property to the value of nearly L.500,000. The western half of the town then remained as a shelter to the wretched sufferers; but, on the 21st, the fire again broke out in this quarter, and destroyed the greater part of it. Only a few lives were lost, and these of wretches who, degraded enough to seek for plunder in the ruin of their fellow-creatures, perished miserably by the burning timbers falling upon and destroying them. These calamities, there is reason to believe, were not the effect of accident, but the work of some vile incendiaries, several of whom, as we have already stated, paid the forfeit of their crime with their lives. Many persons, who had just recovered from the effects of the fire in February 1816, are among the sufferers on the present occasion. One house, that of Hunter and Co., has sustained loss to the extent of L. 30,000; and the storehouses of many other extensive mercantile concerns have been consumed, to the number of 23. Great apprehensions were entertained that this awful calamity might be followed by the more dreadful one of famine; and Vice-Admiral Pickmore had, in the meantime, prohibited the exportation of all provisions, till it should be ascertained what supply would be required to prevent the colony from experiencing this additional misfortune.

UNITED STATES.

The new navigation act of the American Government is carrying into effect with great strictness. Accounts are received that two vessels from Liverpool, one at Charleston, and another at New York, have been seized under its provisions; but it is expected that the property will be restored, as the act was passed in March last, and its operation only commenced on the 1st October.

According to New York papers, it appears, that a serious misunderstanding exists between the United States and Spain. The Americans claim indemnity for past spoliations, which Spain of course disputes. There is a controversy, which is of several years standing, concerning the respective limits of Louisiana and the territories of Mexico.—It is not very likely, however, that Spain, intent at present on the subjugation of her revolted colonies, would involve herself in any serious dispute with so powerful a state as America, which by her position could interfere with such decided effect in favour of the South Americans, struggling for independence.

SPANISH AMERICA.

In these interesting colonies, the march of independence still proceeds with a slow but apparently sure pace. An attempt of the royal authority to detach Bolivar and others of the Patriot chiefs, by an offer of amnesty, has failed; and the Royalist General Culzada, has, in consequence of the arbitrary conduct of Morillo, joined the Independents, with 700 Creolian troops under his command. Morillo, by the last accounts, was in Caraccas, carrying off every thing valuable; but was expected soon to proceed to Puerto Cabello, the independents, in several directions, being in march against him.

In Mexico, we still find General Mina active; although the Spanish accounts have several times destroyed him and his forces. Advices from New Orleans state, that he had defeated the royalists on the 19th June; in proof of which, it is added, that he had entered San Luis de Potosi, where he had been joined by the inhabitants, and by the reinforcements there received, his force had been increased to 8000 men.

Intelligence from Peru, has been received in Buenos Ayres papers of the 3d August, from which it appears that the royal force, under the command of General La Serna, which had taken possession of Salta and Jujuy, was put to flight on the 8th of May, and fell back on Potosi. The evacuation of a province which is the only magazine of Peru, has been effected by the constant and bloody attacks of the guerillas and militia of the patriot Governor Guemes, assisted by Colonel La Madrid, who, with his flying division, got into the rear of the royal army, occupied Tarifa, made its garrison prisoners, consisting of four hundred veteran soldiers, and immediately besieged Chuquisaca. It was expected that the re-

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sult of the campaign would be the entire evacuation of Peru by the royalists.

On the eastern shore of the river Plate, General Artigas has had several engagements with the Portuguese troops, which invaded that part of the Spanish territories. In these actions he is said to have been successful, and to have compelled the Portuguese force to take shelter in their own territories, where it is not likely that they will obtain any reinforcements, as the native Brazilians are ripe for independence, and have already joined Artigas in great numbers.

By the last mails from the Brazils, it is stated, that a reinforcement of Portuguese troops had left Rio Janeiro, in order to retain possession of Monte Video.

WEST INDIES.

A letter, dated Antigua, October 17, states, that the confidential servants of Mr President Kerby having robbed their master of L.600 or L.700, then attempted to destroy him by poison, to prevent discovery. Two of them had been executed; three more were condemned to be hung, two of them *Obeah* people, who prepared and furnished the medicine. There are about 15 persons, coloured people and slaves, concerned in this affair. The letter concludes thus: "Mr Kerby is a most humane good man: he has taken some poison, but it was not strong enough, and he has of late had very bad health. They poisoned his filtering-stone."

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

NOVEMBER.

8.—*Destitute Sick Society of Edinburgh.*—Thursday night, a sermon was preached in aid of this Society, in Lady Yester's church, by the Rev. David Dickson sen. one of the ministers of this city, from Isaiah lvii. 5, 6, when a liberal collection was received. Towards the close of the sermon, the preacher took occasion to notice, that, nearly thirty years ago, he had the honour to plead the cause of the same institution from the same text, and in nearly the same words. He then read the first report of the Society, and noticed the striking contrast which it formed when compared with their last report, and the evidence it afforded of the incalculable good that must have been done by means of their exertions since the commencement of the institution.

	Expended.	Families relieved.	Individuals.
By the first printed report, from July 8, 1785, to Nov. 2, 1786, nearly 16 months, the statement is as follows:	L.61 18 6	157	424
Report from Nov. 1815 to Nov. 1816, only 12 months, - -	794 2 6	1505	5867

As an evidence of the astonishing zeal and most indefatigable, yet entirely voluntary, labour of the members of the Society during the last year, the almost incredible number of 5159 distinct visits were personally made by these assiduous almoners to the pensioners of their bounty.

10.—*Robbery of the Belfast Mail-coach.*—On the evening of the 7th, about six o'clock, the day mail-coach, from Belfast, on its way to Dublin, was obstructed in its passage at Lissen-hall, by two carts placed across the road, and ten or twelve armed men immediately appeared, seized the reins of the front horses, and fired several shots, one of which passed through the hat of one of the guards, and took effect in the back part of his head, but without any fatal result. The passengers, seven outside, and four inside, were then rifled, in the most brutal manner, of every thing valuable about them, and the ruffians, having secured a considerable booty, made off. Several of them, however, have been since apprehended and tried, two of whom have been sentenced to death, and two to transportation for life.

15.—*Town-guard of Edinburgh.*—To-day this ancient body, the only one in the British dominions on the same principle, was disbanded, according to the provisions of the last police act. The Edinburgh town-guard was originally raised in the year 1648, and consisted then of 60 men, besides officers. In 1682, it was increased to 108 men. Since that period the number has fluctuated; but, for many years, there were three companies, of one captain, one serjeant, one corporal, one drummer, and 25 privates. Within these few years, however, it was reduced to two serjeants, two corporals, two drummers, and 25 privates.

16.—*Thunder Storm at Irvine.*—This evening, about six o'clock, there were four claps of thunder here; the first and last low, the second like the report of a very large cannon, with a long and diminishing sound, the third the loudest, followed by a severe storm of hail and rain. The lightning of the second killed two cavalry horses, and struck down one of their own-

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ers in the stable at the bottom of the garden of David Sillers, Esq. These were part of the troops of the county cavalry, assembled for a week's exercise. The stable was not injured.

Jail-breaking.—On the morning of Sunday, the 9th instant, four men escaped from the new jail, Perth, by cutting an aperture through the roof of the water-closet. They had been incarcerated for non-payment of fines imposed upon them for the offence of smuggling whisky.

Only two regiments of infantry are now quartered in all Scotland, viz. the 88th, head-quarters at Edinburgh, and the 40th at Glasgow. The whole of the Highland corps not on service are in Ireland, viz. the 42d, 78th, 92d, and 93d.

Canine Thief.—Lately, in Dysart, Fifeshire, a bitch and cat, in the same family, brought forth young within a few days of each other. The former being deprived of her pups, attacked poor puss, and, after several fierce encounters, drove her from her kittens, and carried them away in triumph to her kennel, where she has brought them up. The bitch is of the water spaniel kind, and seemed equally fond of her stolen charge as of her own progeny, and they no less happy in the bosom of their rough nurse than under the protection of their natural mother.

Life Boats.—Lieutenant Thrackston, on Monday, the 10th instant, made a trial of his life boat in the Bristol Channel. The day was not so stormy as he could have wished, but there was a very rapid tide, the wind at W. N. W. and at half ebb, off the Black-nose Point. Lieutenant Thrackston was himself in the boat, with eleven men, who laid her in the trough of the swell, from Portishead to Walton Bay; she was then pulled up again to Portishead, and filled with water to her gunwales! The Racer revenue cutter now took her in tow, run her into the strength of the sea and tide, (which was exceedingly rapid,) and then cast her adrift. Every sea rolled over her, yet she lifted to its rise, and never, in the least degree, was her stability shaken. In this situation did her crew take to their oars, and pull for the shore. She was upwards of half an hour in this situation, every moment of which gave increasing confidence. In every respect this important invention answered the most sanguine expectation; and there is little doubt, but that, if the William and Mary packet had been in possession of a boat on this construction, (only 17 feet long,) every life might have been preserved.

18.—*Appeal for Murder.*—At the last Warwick Assizes, Abraham Thornton, a small farmer in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, was tried, and acquitted, on a charge of murdering a young woman, named Mary Ashford, whom the prisoner was supposed to have first violated, and then thrown into a pool of water. The acquittal of this man having produced great dissatisfaction, the relatives have again prosecuted him by appeal, at the suit of William Ashford, the deceased's brother. When brought into the Court of King's Bench yesterday morning, the defendant pleaded "*Not guilty*," adding, "*And I am ready to defend the same by my body*," and throwing down, at the same time, one of a pair of new gloves he had on his hands, according to the ancient mode of challenge. The validity of this plea remains yet to be decided: but, in the mean time, it has excited an extraordinary degree of interest, on account of its novelty, and more particularly from the disparity of strength between the appellant and defendant, the former being a slender lad about 17, while the latter is a strong built man of the age of 30. The counsel for the appellant have argued, That the right of challenge only remains with the accused party, when there is nothing else to support the charge but the assertion of the accuser, whereas, in this case, they contend that there are strong presumptive proofs of the defendant's guilt. Should this counterplea, which is to be argued next term, not be sustained, either the appellant must give up his charge against the defendant, and be liable to him in damages, or a day of battle must be appointed, in which the parties, armed with batons, must fight each other in the presence of the Court. If the defendant kill the appellant, or can maintain the fight till the stars appear in the evening, he is acquitted; if he give up before that time, he is to be hanged immediately; and if he be killed in the fight, it is considered the justice of Providence upon him. If the appellant give up, and cry "*craven*," he is declared infamous. (See Blackstone, Vol. IV. p. 312.) There has been no wager of battle in this country for several centuries. The last awarded was in the time of Charles I. and then the commission was revoked. In the present case, Ashford has declared, that, should the Court award the combat, he will fight to the death in revenge for his murdered sister.

22.—*Funeral of the Princess Charlotte of Wales.*—The body of this lamented Princess, with that of her infant son, were embalmed on the 7th, according to ancient custom; and lay in state at Claremont till the evening of the 18th, when they were removed, in a private manner, to Windsor, attended by the afflicted Prince Leopold, and escorted by a party of the 10th regiment.

Wednesday, the 19th, was the day appointed for the funeral, and by a spontaneous feeling of deep and sincere grief for

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the dead, and sympathy and respect for the living, it was observed throughout every part of the kingdom, with all the devotion of national grief and humiliation; business of every kind being suspended, and almost every church of every denomination being opened for public worship, and crowded by persons of all ranks, clad in mourning.

In the evening, crowds assembled from all quarters, to the interment of the Princess. Vehicles of every description were employed to convey the thousands who issued from the metropolis to Windsor; and hundreds who could not afford or could not procure conveyance, hurried thither on foot. At half past eight o'clock, the quickened tolling of the bell announced the removal of the royal remains from the Lower Lodge at Windsor, to the vault of interment at St George's Chapel. The hearse, drawn by eight black horses, and preceded by two troops of the blues, entered the castle gate at a quarter before nine; 99 of the Royal servants in state liveries, with torches, and 24 mutes, accompanying the body; eleven coaches belonging to the Royal Family, with six horses in each, followed the funeral procession.

Procession to the Chapel.

Servants and Grooms of her late Royal Highness, and of his Serene Highness, on foot, in deep Mourning.
Servants and Grooms of the Royal Family, the Prince Regent, and their Majesties, on foot, in full State Liveries, with crape hat-bands and black gloves, four and four, bearing flambeaux.
The full band of the Royal Horse-Guards Blue.
THE HEARSE,
Drawn by eight of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's Black Horses, fully caparisoned, each Horse attended by a Groom in full State Livery.
His Majesty's Body Carriage,
Drawn by a full set of his Majesty's Horses, each Horse attended by a Groom in full State Livery conveying his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold, Chief Mourner,
and their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Clarence,
Supporters to the Chief Mourner.
The Carriages of the Prince Regent, the Royal Family, and the Prince Leopold, each drawn by six Horses, closed the Procession.

Guard of the Royal-Horse-Guards Blue. Guard of the Royal Horse-Guards Blue.

The whole Procession, from the Lower Lodge to St George's Chapel, was flanked by the military, every fourth man bearing a flambeau.

Upon arrival at St George's Chapel, the Servants, Grooms, and Band, filed off without the South Door.

At the entrance, the Dean and Prebendaries, attended by the Choir, received the Body; and the procession (having previously been formed by Sir G. Naylor, assisted by the other officers of arms, and being flanked by the military, every fourth man bearing a flambeau), moved down the South Aisle, and up the Nave, into the Choir, in the following order:

Poor Knights of Windsor.
Pages of the Prince Leopold.
Pages of the Royal Family.
Pages of the Prince Regent.
Pages of their Majesties.

(These, with the exception of the Pages of Prince Leopold, proceeded up the Nave, and filed off on each side,—the Officers of the Chapel not allowing them to enter,)

Solicitor to her late Royal Highness, (J. Smallpiece, Esq.)
Comptroller of the Household of her late Royal Highness (Norton Willis, Esq.)
Apothecaries of her late Royal Highness. Surgeons of her late Royal Highness.
The Curates and Rectors of the Parishes of Eshur and Windsor.
Physicians who attended her late Royal Highness, (Drs Baillie and Sims).
Chaplains to his Serene Highness (Dr Short, &c.)
Equerry of her late Royal Highness.
Equerries of the Royal Family.
Equerries of the Prince Regent.
Quarter-master-general, (Sir W. Gordon, K.C.B.) Adjutant-general, (Sir H. Calvert, G.C.B.)
Officers of the Duchy of Cornwall,
Mr Chancellor Leach; Mr Serjeant Best, attorney-general; the Earl of Yarmouth, lord warden.
Chamberlain to the Great Stewart of Scotland, (Lord Viscount Keith).
Grooms of the Bed-chamber to the Prince Regent.
Pursuivants of Arms.
Comptroller of the Prince Regent's Household. Treasurer of the Prince Regent's Household.
Master of the Prince Regent's Household.
Heralds of Arms.
Privy Purse and Private Secretary to the Prince Regent (Right Hon. Sir Benj. Bloomfield).
Lords of the Prince Regent's Bed-chamber.
Norroy King of Arms.
The Bishop of Exeter. The Bishop of Salisbury.
The Bishop of London.
The Ministers of Hanover and Saxony, (Count Munster and Baron de Just.)
The Deputy Earl Marshal (the Right Hon. Lord H. Howard).
His Majesty's Ministers.
The Archbishop of Canterbury.
Choir of Windsor.
Prebendaries of Windsor.
Dean of Windsor (the Hon. and Rev. Lewis Hobart).
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard. (Earl of Macclesfield).

The Groom of the Stole, (Marquis of Winchester). The Lord Steward of his Majesty's Household, (Marquis of Cholmondeley, K. G.) The King's Master of the Horse, (D. of Montrose, K.G.)

Clarenceux King of Arms.

Gentleman Usher. The Coronet of her late Royal Highness, borne upon a black velvet Cushion, by Col. Addenbrook. Gentleman Usher.

Gentleman Usher. Garter Principal King at Arms bearing his Sceptre. Gentleman Usher.

Secretary to the Lord Chamberlain, (J. Calvert, Esq.) The Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household, (Marquis of Hertford, K.G. The Vice-chamberlain (Lord Jocelyn),

Supporters of the Pall, Lady Grenville. Supporters of the Pall, Lady Boston.

THE COFFIN.

Lady Ellenborough. Lady Arden.

Covered by a black velvet Pall, adorned with eight escutcheons of her late Royal Highness's Arms, the Coffin carried by eight Yeomen of the Guard under a Canopy of black velvet, borne by eight Gentlemen Ushers.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence in a long black Cloak, his Train borne by two Gentlemen of his Royal Highness's Household. The Chief Mourner, his Serene Highness PRINCE LEOPOLD, in a long black Cloak, his Train borne by Baron de Hardenbrock, and Sir Robert Gardiner. His Royal Highness the Duke of York in a long black Cloak, his Train borne by two Gentlemen of his Royal Highness's Household.

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PRINCES OF THE BLOOD ROYAL
in long black Cloaks, the Train of each borne by two Gentlemen of the respective Households of their Royal Highnesses.
Ladies of the Bed-chamber of her late Royal Highness.
Women of the Bed-chamber to her late Royal Highness.
His Majesty's Establishment at Windsor, viz.
Groom of the Stole.
Master of the Robes, Vice-Chamberlain.
Lords of the Bed-chamber.
Grooms of the Bed-chamber.
Clerk Marshal.
Equerries.
Master of the Household.
Her Majesty's Establishment at Windsor, viz.
Master of the Horse.
Vice-chamberlain.
Secretary and Comptroller of the Household. Treasurer of the Household.
Equerries and Gentlemen Ushers.
Ladies of her Majesty's Bed-chamber.
Women of her Majesty's Bed-chamber.
Ladies Attendants on their Royal Highnesses the Princesses.
Attendants on her late Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte.
Attendants on her Majesty and the Princesses.

The procession was conducted with the utmost solemnity. The choristers, as soon as it made its appearance in the chapel, began to chaunt the solemn service of "I know that my redeemer liveth." The canopy, which was of an immense length, followed the choristers, moving at a very slow pace; and, being borne high in the air, had a most imposing effect. Prince Leopold followed the coffin, as chief mourner, and his appearance created deep interest. Though he made evident efforts to preserve calmness, yet he every now and then burst into a flood of tears. He walked along with unsteady steps, and took the seat provided for him at the head of the coffin, between the Dukes of York and Clarence. During the service, his Serene Highness preserved a fixed but downcast look towards the coffin of his beloved wife, never once raising his eyes to the assemblage. His distress, however, was tolerably subdued, till the awful moment when the coffin was gradually lowered into the vault, when he was alarmingly moved, but by a strong effort seemed also to conquer this emotion. The usual anthems were then chaunted with due solemnity; and, the office of burial being concluded, Sir Isaac Heard, Garter Principal King at Arms, after a short pause, proclaimed, as follows, the style of her late Royal Highness:

"Thus it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this transitory life, unto his Divine Mercy, the late Most Illustrious Princess Charlotte Augusta, daughter of his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, Regent of this United Kingdom, Consort of his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Misnia, Landgrave of Thuringia, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, and grand-daughter of his Most Excellent Majesty George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, whom God bless and preserve with long life, health, and honour, and all worldly happiness."

The funeral service had closed about eleven, and before twelve the chapel was cleared. The Prince Leopold returned to Claremont, almost immediately after the mournful ceremonial. During the illness of the Princess, his Serene Highness was unremitting in his personal attentions, and has continued inconsolable since her death. He is now about to leave this country on a short visit to his paternal residence in Germany; after which, he has declared it to be his determination to return to Claremont, and reside there till death again joins him to his lamented consort. The accoucheur of the Princess was Sir Richard Croft, who was attended by Dr Baillie, and the protracted labour of her Royal Highness occasioned Dr Sims to be sent for, but it is understood that he did not conceive it necessary to interfere in the treatment the other gentlemen had adopted. The Regent and Prince Leopold have both testified their sense of the merits of Dr Croft; it is supposed, however, that anxiety for a living child caused a delay in the means frequently used to accelerate births, till the strength of the mother was so much exhausted, that no human means could have availed to save her.

On the 7th, the Deputy Earl Marshal issued an order for a general mourning, as mentioned in our last number, to commence on Sunday the 9th.

Never, we are sure, was mourning more general or sincere than that evinced on this most distressing occasion. There was something, indeed, in the tragical event itself, whether considered as a public or as a domestic affliction, so extremely affecting, that it required not the aid of adventitious circumstances to strike the imagination, or to touch the heart. The mother and the child—the heirs of England's crown—lie buried in one grave, and the expected root of a glorious succession is blasted and cut off for ever. The general sorrow, also, which these considerations excite, is greatly heightened by the personal character of the Princess, who appears to have given up her mind entirely to the virtues of domestic life, preferring the retirement of her own happy abode to all the senseless dissipation of fashion.—Domestic virtue is the true spring of public honour; and, in this view, the character of the Princess was a sort of pledge for the tranquil and happy administration of these realms.

Herring-Fishing.—There were cured last season, at Helmsdale, in the county of Sutherland, 7300 barrels of herrings, all of which were entitled to the bounty. This is only the fourth season of fishing at this port, which possesses superior advantages: these will be still further increased in consequence of the Honourable the Board of

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Customs having appointed an officer with powers to grant clearances direct from this port, and in consequence of the Marquis of Stafford having determined to construct a pier, and otherwise improve the harbour.

Inundation.—In the end of last week, the heavy rains increased the North and South Esk rivers, in the neighbourhood of Montrose, to an extent not equalled for six years past. On Saturday the 15th, the North Esk rose upwards of twelve feet, overflowing all the low lands on its banks, and sweeping every thing before it—corn, potatoes, &c. In one instance, a field of wheat entirely disappeared, and now exhibits the appearance of a rough shingly beach, the vegetable mould being completely swept off. The mound that forms the approach to Marykirk Bridge was at one time overflowed, and rendered impassable; and the torrent was so powerful, that even the fish were compelled to yield to it, and hurried to the sea. Although a good deal of grain was observed floating in the estuary of the South Esk, we have heard of no particular damage on that river.

24.—*Edinburgh Police Court.*—A messenger at arms was sentenced to a fine of £10, or imprisonment in Bridewell, for insulting a gentleman in the New Town, by following him from street to street, insisting to know his name, and alleging that he was a person against whom he had a caption; to whom, upon investigation, it appeared, the gentleman bore no other resemblance than that he wore his arm in a sling. The messenger chose to go to Bridewell rather than pay the fine, and he has since brought an appeal before the Court of Session, which their Lordships dismissed without hearing more than the appellant's counsel; and on this occasion their Lordships expressed the greatest indignation at the conduct of the law officer.

26.—*Curious Seizure.*—The *walls* of the new gaol building at Bristol, have, it is said, (owing, doubtless, to some mistake,) been seized by the custom-house officers of that port, for the duty on the stones, which were conveyed by water from the Black Rock hotwells.

Monopoly of Whale Oil.—In the Court of King's Bench this morning, Mr Scarlett moved a writ of criminal information against Herman Gerard Hilbers and Stephen Cleasby, for an attempt to raise, by illegal means, the price of whale oil. By the affidavits it appeared, that in the course of three months they had engrossed about nine-tenths of all the whale oil in the kingdom.—A rule was granted, to shew cause for criminal prosecution.

27.—*Ramsgate.*—A most calamitous event took place this morning, about six o'clock, by the falling of an immense quantity of the cliff, between this place and Broadstairs. Four marines, belonging to a party who were upon the look-out for smugglers, were unhappily buried under the falling mass; three others narrowly escaped.

Fire.—On Tuesday morning, the 25th, about nine o'clock, a fire broke out in the top storey of the north-west corner of the new College buildings, Edinburgh, which was occasioned, it is supposed, by the negligence of the workmen, and had at first a very alarming appearance; but, by the prompt attendance of the fire-engines, and the exertions of the firemen, the flames were got under in the course of two hours; not, however, till considerable damage was done in the quarter where it originated.

Royal Bank of Scotland.—On Tuesday, at a general meeting of the proprietors of the Royal Bank stock, it was agreed to add £500,000, part of the undivided profits of the Bank, to their capital. This they are enabled to do without any new subscription. By this resolution, £100 stock will, after Christmas, be augmented to £150.

DECEMBER.

1.—A soldier, named Barber, of the 28th regiment, now at Gosport, under orders for the Mediterranean, is said to have become possessed of £130,000 by the decease of a gentleman in the West Indies, who had realised property amounting to £400,000, which is directed to be divided among three persons, who are thus unexpectedly advanced from a state of indigence to the means of passing the remainder of their days in affluence and splendour. Barber has been about five years in the 28th regiment, where he has conducted himself much to the satisfaction of those officers who have had opportunities of observing his general conduct.—The other two fortunate individuals are Barber's brother and his grandfather, who are natives of Frome, in Somersetshire.

4.—*Post-Horse Duty.*—Yesterday, at the Crown and Anchor tavern, London, the letting of the post-horse districts, for the ensuing three years, took place before the Honourable Commissioners of his Majesty's Stamps, when the several districts were let as under:—

1. North Britain, ...£14,100
2. Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham, 9,520
3. Yorkshire, ... 15,790
4. Lancashire, Cheshire, Derby, and Stafford,..... 17,900
5. Lincoln, Leicester, and Nottingham, ... 8,980
6. Northampton, Rutland, Warwick, and Oxford, ... 15,000
7. Wilts, Worcester, and Gloucester, ... 16,060
8. Norfolk, Essex, Cambridge, and Suffolk, ... 16,740
9. Bedford, and Bucks, ... 6,540
10. Hertford, and Hants,..... 9,700
11. Surrey, ... 11,820

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12.	Middlesex,	26,800
13.	Kent, and Sussex,	23,200
14.	Hants, and Berks,	15,900
15.	Dorset, Devon, Somerset, and Cornwall,	21,520
16.	North Wales,	5,360
17.	South Wales,	4,520
		£240,360

The Fever in Ireland has not, we regret to find by the last accounts, abated in that degree which was lately anticipated from the stirring change in the weather. From Derry, Limerick, and other parts, the accounts are still very distressing.—The Irish Board of Excise have issued an order to the inspecting officers, directing them to allow the re-opening of such hearths and windows, closed on account of the taxes, as may be necessary for the recovery of patients afflicted with the fever.

British Linen Company.—At a meeting of a Court of Proprietors of this bank in Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the Court confirmed a resolution of last meeting, to give a bonus of 25 per cent. in the Company's stock, and farther to increase the annual dividend from nine to ten per cent. The Court also voted the sum of one thousand guineas, and a piece of plate of five hundred guineas value, to Mr Gilchrist, the manager—one thousand guineas to Mr Henderson, the secretary—and five hundred guineas to Mr Fleming, the senior teller, and eldest officer in the Company's employment, who has been 44 years in its service.

Buildings on the North Bridge of Edinburgh.—On Tuesday, a general meeting of the inhabitants of Edinburgh was held in Freemasons' Hall, convened by public advertisement, to consider what measures it would be proper to take in regard to the buildings now erecting, and proposed to be erected, on the North Bridge, in violation of the original plan of the New Town; Professor Playfair in the chair. Mr James Stuart opened the business of the meeting by a very long speech. After referring to the ulterior proceedings of the Council, he moved a string of resolutions, on which the meeting came to the following decision: "That they having obtained the opinion of eminent counsel that the magistrates had no legal powers, in virtue of the foresaid act, or otherwise, to authorize the erection of such buildings, as are now in progress on the west side of the North Bridge; resolved to take immediate legal steps to prevent their being farther proceeded with, it being the understanding of this meeting, that no buildings higher than what may be necessary for a row of shops can be permitted to be erected on the North Bridge, without serious injury to the city; and that the committee appointed be authorized to take such steps as may appear proper to prevent the erection of any buildings upon the Mound that would be injurious to the beauty of the city."

Following up this resolution, the committee have applied for an interdict to the Lord Ordinary in the Court of Session; and his Lordship has ordered printed answers, in order that the question may be submitted to the decision of the Second Division of the Court. There has already been subscribed for the purpose of carrying the object of the meeting into execution, the sum of nearly L. 500.

8.—*Adventurers to South America.*—The Gazette of the 29th ult. contains a proclamation of the Prince Regent, forbidding British officers from engaging in the contest in South America, either on the side of the Patriots, or that of the King of Spain.

Scottish Burgh Reform.—Our last number contained a summary of the proceedings which had taken place in various parts of Scotland on this subject, which seems to become every day more generally interesting. On Monday the 17th November, the motion which had lain over for a month on the table of the Merchant Company, was taken into consideration in a very numerous meeting of that body; when Mr Adam Black, after a very temperate and able speech, proposed the following resolutions:

1. That this Company views, with great satisfaction, the exertions now making to introduce into the Scottish burghs a more rational and liberal system of town polity: and considers the sound and enlightened principles displayed in the set of Montrose, so congenial to the spirit of the British constitution, as reflecting the highest honour on the Lord Advocate of Scotland, and his Majesty's Privy Council, and eminently conducive to the welfare of the community, and the respectability of the magistracy.

2. That this Company, being deeply interested in every thing connected with the good of the city, and being the only chartered body of Merchant Burgesses, consider themselves particularly called upon to use every exertion to procure for the burgesses that influence in the administration of their own affairs to which they are entitled, and to promote such improvements in the set of the city as will be conducive to its prosperity.

These resolutions were met by a counter-set, proposed by Mr Pattison, the Master of the Company, which gave rise to some discussion; and, upon a division, there voted—for Mr Black's motion, 176—for Mr Pattison's, 87.—Majority, 89.

Several other public bodies have since held meetings, and passed resolutions in favour of a change in the town polity; and the committees appointed by these bodies, anticipating no favourable result from a

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conference with the magistrates, determined to avail themselves of certain supposed informalities in the late election of magistrates. Accordingly, a petition and protest against the election was presented to the Court of Session, in name of Deacon Lawrie, and Alexander Henderson, late deacon of the goldsmiths, founded on the following grounds: 1st, That several members of the council hold places of profit in the gift of the magistrates, which is contrary to the set of the burgh; 2d, That others have no place of residence within the royalty; and, 3d, That one individual was not a freeman of the burgh at the time of his election. The case came before the Second Division of the Court; and their Lordships issued an order to give Deacon Lawrie access to the city records, and to furnish him with extracts. Deacon Lawrie twice protested and complained to the Court, that their Lordships' order had been evaded; and, in consequence, John Connell, Esq. Judge-Admiral, was, on Friday the 28th, nominated Commissioner by the Court, to examine the records, and to order extracts from them, agreeably to the interlocutor of the Court. There appeared in support of the petition and protests which have been taken, John Clerk, George Cranstoun, Francis Jeffrey, James Moncreiff, Henry Cockburn, John Archibald Murray, and Robert Bell, Esqrs. advocates. William Bell, Esq. W. S. agent.

Several of the corporate bodies have voted sums from their funds in support of the process. While the request on the part of the committees for a conference waited an answer from the magistrates, the action was instituted in the Supreme Court; in consequence of which, the council resolved against holding any conference with the citizens on the subject.

The magistrates of Dumfries and Annan have agreed to go along with their fellow-citizens in applying to Parliament for a change in the set of these burghs. Those of Ayr have refused, on the ground that no imputation has been cast on their management. The burgesses of Inverness are also endeavouring to disfranchise the burgh, some of the magistrates being considered illegally appointed; and have employed the Lord Advocate, Mr Cranstoun, and Mr Jeffrey, as their counsel.

The question of reform has also been agitated in Haddington, Irvine, Wick, Dingwall, and Elgin, where frequent meetings of the burgesses have been held on the subject.

Information has been received, that the proceedings under the report of Montrose poll warrant have been approved of in a council held lately by the Prince Regent at Brighton.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Acts passed in the 57th Year of the Reign of George III. or in the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Cap. LIII. *For the more effectual Punishment of Murders and Manslaughters committed in Places not within his Majesty's Dominions.*—June 27.

Cap. LIV. *To enable the Commissioners of his Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, to make and maintain a Road from Milbank Row, Westminster, to the Penitentiary.*—June 27.

Cap. LV. *To continue an Act to empower his Majesty to secure and detain such Persons as his Majesty shall suspect are conspiring against his Person and Government.*—June 30.

After March 1, 1818, persons committed to have the benefit of the laws.—The secretary of state may order persons committed for high treason, &c. to be removed to any other jail.

Cap. LVI. *To amend the Laws in respect to forfeited Recognizances in Ireland.*—June 30.

Cap. LVII. *To empower his Majesty to suspend training, and to regulate the Quotas of the Militia.*—June 30.

Cap. LVIII. *To allow British Goods to be exported direct from this Country to the United States of America upon the same terms as when exported to any foreign Country.*—June 30.

Cap. LIX. *For letting to Farm the Post-Horse Duties, and for better securing and facilitating the Recovery of the said Duties.*—June 30.

Cap. LX. *To regulate certain Offices in the Court of Exchequer in England.*—July 7.

Cap. LXI. *To abolish the Offices of the Wardens, Chief Justices, and Justices in Eyre, North and South of Trent.*—July 7.

Cap. LXII. *To abolish certain Offices, and to regulate certain other Offices, in Ireland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXIII. *To regulate the Offices of Clerks of the Signet and Privy Seal.*—July 7.

Cap. LXIV. *To abolish certain Offices, and regulate others, in Scotland.*—July 7.

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Cap. LXV. *To enable his Majesty to recompense the Services of Persons holding, or who have held, certain high and efficient Civil Offices.*—July 7.

Whereas the abolition and regulation of various offices will deprive the crown of part of the means by which his Majesty has been heretofore enabled to recompense the services of persons holding, or who have held, high and efficient civil offices; and whereas it is expedient and necessary, and consistent with sound policy and proper economy, that, upon the abolition and regulation of various offices of emolument, other means should be afforded to his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, of recompensing the meritorious services of persons filling or who have filled high effective civil offices, and making competent provision for persons holding such offices upon their quitting or being removed from the same: may it therefore please your Majesty, &c. &c.

That, after the expiration of two years from the passing of this act, it shall be lawful for his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, by any warrant under his royal sign manual, countersigned by any three or more of the commissioners of his Majesty's treasury of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being, to grant unto any person who shall have served his Majesty, his heirs, or successors, for any period not less than two years in the whole, either uninterruptedly or at different times, in any one or more of the offices of first lord of the treasury or of one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, or chancellor of the exchequer, or first lord of the Admiralty, a pension during life not exceeding three thousand pounds per annum; and at the expiration of every further progressive period of two years more from the passing of this act, to grant in like manner other like pensions to any other such persons as aforesaid, until, at the expiration of twelve years from the passing of this act, six of such pensions shall have been granted in the whole; and from and after such six pensions of three thousand pounds each shall have been granted to six such persons as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for his Majesty, his heirs, or successors, to grant any further or other pension in respect of any such offices as aforesaid.

His Majesty empowered to grant one other like pension, although six filled up, to be deemed a supernumerary pension; and become one of the regular number on the first falling in.—After the expiration of certain periods, his Majesty allowed to grant pensions of L. 2900 to certain other persons holding civil offices, under certain limitations.—After the expiration of certain periods, his Majesty empowered to grant pensions of L. 1500 to certain other persons holding civil offices, under limitations.—His Majesty may grant a pension to any person having been chancellor of the exchequer of Ireland, and afterwards holding any efficient office.—After the expiration of certain periods, his Majesty empowered to grant pensions of L. 1000 to certain other persons holding civil offices, under limitations.—When persons have served eight years in several classes of offices, the pension attached to the highest class of office may be granted on three years' service in the highest office.—Interest of persons in office to cease with respect to such office on obtaining pensions.—Persons holding pensions, on obtaining pensions under this act, to relinquish such previous pensions.—Pensions payable quarterly out of the Consolidated Fund, free from taxes.

Cap. LXVI. *To amend an Act of the Twenty-second Year of his present Majesty, for suppressing or regulating certain Offices therein mentioned, so far as relates to the Board of Trade; and for enabling the Vice-President of the Board of Trade to send and receive Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage.*—July 7.

Cap. LXVII. *To regulate certain Offices and abolish others in his Majesty's Mints in England and Scotland respectively.*—July 7.

The office of Warden of the Mint shall be abolished after the termination of the existing interest, and the duties performed by the master without any additional salary. The office of Comptroller shall be hereafter executed in person. The stamper's salary to be abolished. The office of Governor of the Mint in Scotland, after the termination of the existing interest, to be held by the Master of the Mint in England, and other offices of the Mint in Scotland, after the existing interest, abolished. The Treasury, on the termination of the whole of the existing interests, may direct the buildings of the Mint of Scotland to be sold.

Cap. LXVIII. *To amend the Laws relating to Sheriffs in Ireland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXIX. *To continue until the 29th day of September 1818, and to amend an Act passed in Ireland in the 36th Year of his present Majesty for the Improvement and Extension of the Fisheries on the Coast of Ireland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXX. *To relieve persons impugning the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity from certain Penalties in Ireland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXI. *To amend an Act of the 50th Year of his present Majesty's Reign, for repealing the several Laws relating to Prisons in Ireland, and for re-enacting such of the provisions thereof as have been found useful with Amendments.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXII. *To continue until the*

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end of the next Session of Parliament two Acts made in the 54th and 56th year of his present Majesty for regulating the Trade in Spirits between Great Britain and Ireland reciprocally.—July 7.

Cap. LXXIII. *To allow the exportation of Woollen or Bay Yarn from Ireland by Licence obtained there.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXIV. *To extend several Acts for allowing the Importation and Exportation of certain Goods and Merchandize to Porta Maria in the Island of Jamaica, and to the Port of Bridge Town in the Island of Barbadoes.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXV. *To abolish the Punishment of Public Whipping on Female Offenders.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXVI. *To amend an Act of the 54th Year of his present Majesty to regulate the Payment and Drawback on Paper allowed to the Universities of Scotland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXVII. *For extending the Provisions of an Act of the 54th Year of his present Majesty for regulating the Payment of Army Prize Money, and for authorizing the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital to suspend the Pensions of such Persons as shall be guilty of Frauds in respect of Prize Money or Pensions.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXVIII. *For fixing the Rates of Subsistence to be paid to Innkeepers and others on Quartering Soldiers.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXIX. *To permit the Transfer of Capital from certain Public Stocks or Funds in Great Britain, to certain Public Stocks or Funds in Ireland.*—July 7.

Cap. LXXX. *For raising the Sum of Nine Millions by Exchequer Bills for the Service of the Year* 1817.—July 10.

The Exchequer Bills made by virtue of this act to be current at the Exchequer after April 5, 1818. The Bank of England may advance six millions on the credit of this act.

Cap. LXXXI. *For Raising the Sum of Three Millions Six Hundred Thousand Pounds, British Currency, by Treasury Bills in Ireland, for the service of the Year* 1817.—July 10.

The Bank of Ireland or England may advance the above sum on the credit of this act.

Cap. LXXXII. *To continue an Act passed in Ireland in the 13th and 14th Years of his present Majesty, respecting certain Annuities, so long as the said Annuities shall be payable.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXIII. *To amend an Act made in the last Session of Parliament for providing for the Charge of certain Additions to the Public Debt of Ireland.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXIV. *To regulate the Offices of his Majesty's Exchequer in England and Ireland respectively.*—July 10.

The duties of the office of Auditor and the four Tellers of the Exchequer, and Clerk of the Pells in England, and of Auditor and Teller of the Exchequer, and Clerk of the Pells in Ireland, after the expiration of existing interests, to be regulated and performed in person. The savings arising from such regulations to go to the consolidated fund. Persons belonging to the said offices when regulated to be incapable of sitting as members of the House of Commons.

Cap. LXXXV. *To permit, until the 14th day of November* 1817, *the Importation of Corn and other Articles in any Ship from any Country; to permit such Articles which may have been warehoused for Exportation only to be entered for Home Consumption; and for indemnifying all Persons who have given directions for the Importation of Corn and other Articles, or the taking the same out of Warehouse free of Duty, and who have acted in obedience thereto.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXVI. *To permit the Importation of Foreign Cambrics and Lawns into Ireland, on payment of the like Duties as are chargeable in Great Britain.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXVII. *To amend two Acts passed in the 45th Year of his present Majesty, and in the last Session of Parliament, for the making more effectual Provision for the Prevention of Smuggling.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXVIII. *To permit Fullers' Earth, Fulling Clay, and Tobacco Pipe Clay, to be carried Coastwise under certain Restrictions.*—July 10.

Cap. LXXXIX. *To allow the Importation of Oranges and Lemons from the Azores and Madeira into the British Colonies of North America.*—July 10.

Cap. XC. *For the Prevention of Persons going armed by Night for the Destruction of Game; and for repealing an Act made in the last Session of Parliament relating to Rogues and Vagabonds.*—July 10.

By this act the act passed last session, (56th Geo. III. cap. 130,) also the acts of the 39th and 40th Geo. III. cap. 50, relating to rogues and vagabonds, are repealed. Persons having entered into any forest, chase, or other open and inclosed ground, with the intent illegally to destroy, take, or kill game or rabbits, or to aid, abet, &c., found between the hours of six in the evening and seven in the morning, from the 1st of October to the 1st of February, between seven in the evening and five in the morning from the 1st of February to the 1st of April, and between nine in the evening and four in the morning for the remainder of the year, armed with any gun, cross-bow, fire arms, bludgeon, or any other offensive weapon, shall be sentenced to transportation for seven years, or punished as guilty of a misdemeanour.

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PATENTS LATELY ENROLLED.

LOUIS FELIX VALLET, late of Paris, but now of Walbrook, London, gentleman, for a new ornamental surface to metals, or metallic compositions. August 5, 1817.

GEORGE STRATTON, of Piccadilly, Middlesex, ironmonger, for a method of saving fuel, by improvements in fire-places, and more effectually heating and ventilating buildings. August 5.

CHARLES ATTWOOD, of Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, window-glass manufacturer, for a certain improvement, or improvements, in the manufacture of window-glass, of the kind or description commonly wrought or fabricated into crown glass, or German sheet glass; and also in certain process, or processes, in the manufacture of crown glass. August 5.

JOHN HAWKS, of Gateshead, Durham, ironfounder, for a method of making iron rails, to be used in the construction of railways. August 5.

LUDVIG GRANHOLM, of Foster-lane, London, Captain in the Royal Navy of Sweden, for a method or methods, process or processes, mean or means, of preserving such animal and vegetable products or substances, separately, or mixed together, as are fit for the food of man, and for such a length of time as to render them fit for ships and garrison stores. August 5

ANTHONY HILL, of Plymouth Iron-works, Glamorganshire, ironmaster, for improvements in the working of iron. August 5.

JOHN DICKINSON, of Nash Mill, Abbotts Langley, Hertfordshire, Esq. for a method of manufacturing, by means of machinery, paper for copperplate printing, also paper for writing, drawing, letter-press printing, and of a thicker sort for boards, and similar in texture and substance to card-boards, or paste-boards, and certain improvements in his patent machinery for manufacturing and cutting paper. August 5.

DENNIS MACCARTHY, of Little Compton-street, St Ann's, Soho, Middlesex, gentleman, for certain improvements on ploughs of various descriptions. August 5.

JOHN PERKS, of Carey-street, St John's, Westminster, engineer, for improvements in the apparatus for manufacturing, purifying, and storing gas. August 5.

THOMAS TAFT, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, saddler, whipmaker, and bridle-cutter, for an improvement in bridle-bits and leather sliding-loop, to act with reins and bits. August 5.

SAMUEL MERSEY, the younger, of Long Acre, St Martin in the Fields, Middlesex, laceman, for a mode or method of weaving, making, and manufacturing of livery lace, and coach lace. August 7.

EDMUND RICHARD BALL, of Albany Mills, Albany, Surrey, paper manufacturer, for a method of manufacturing paper, of superior strength and durability, for bills or notes, or other uses requiring strength. August 9.

EDWARD BIGGS, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, brassfounder, for improvements in the method of making or manufacturing pans and skils of various kinds. August 12.

JAMES BOUNSALL, of Crown-street, Old-street Road, Shoreditch, Middlesex, tailor, for improvements in the machinery used for tarring, reeling, and twisting of yarn, and forming the lissims or shands of cables, or other cordage, and manufacturing rope of every size. August 12.

WILLIAM GILDART and JOHN SERVANT, both of Leeds, Yorkshire, house-carpenters, and copartners, for improvements in mangles. August 12.

JEPTHA AVERY WILKINSON, late of New York, in the United States of America, but now residing in Covent-Garden, Middlesex, Esq. for improvements in the application of machinery for the purpose of manufacturing of weavers' reeds by water, or other power. August 23.

GEORGE MEDHURST, of Denmark-street, St Giles in the Fields, Middlesex, engineer, for an arrangement of implements to form certain apparatus, which he denominates the Hydraulic Balance, applicable to mechanical and hydraulic purposes. August 26.

JOHN JAMES ALEXANDER MACCARTHY, of Millbank-street, Westminster, for a road or way for passage across rivers, creeks, and waters, and from shore to shore thereof, without stoppage or impediment to the constant navigation thereof, and across ravines, fissures, clefts, and chasms; and for a method or methods of constructing arches or apertures for the running and flowing of water through the same, or under bridges, to be used and applied in the construction of the before-mentioned roads or way, or otherwise. August 26.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Nov. 10.—Mr Alexander Louis Prevost, to be agent and consul in London, for the Swiss Confederation.

15.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, to be Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow.

28.—Jonathan Garner, Esq. of Barbadoes, to be first President of the Edinburgh Royal Medical Society.

—The Right Hon. Lord Dundas, to be President of the Society of Scottish Antiquaries.

29.—James Colquhoun, Esq. to be Consul-General in Great Britain, for the Republics of Hamburgh, Bremen, and Lubeck.

Dec. 1.—Sir James Hall, Bart. to be President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

4.—Dr Hope re-elected President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

5.—Mr Walter Tod, first President of the Edinburgh Theological Society.

Member returned to serve in Parliament.

Cholmoley Dering, Esq. for the Borough of Romney, in room of Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, deceased.

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

Oct. 15.—The Rev. Mathew Hodge, to the Rectory of Fillingham, Lincolnshire.

Nov. 22.—Rev. Charles Wood, to the Rectory of Tendering, Essex.

—Rev. Dr P. Hunt, to the Vicarage of Goldington, Bedfordshire, and adjoining Rectory of St Peter Martin.

—Rev. John Taylor, to the Rectory of Deptford, Devon.

27.—Rev. John Giles Dimock, to the Rectory of Uppingham.

—The Earl of Airly has been pleased to present the Rev. William Ramsay, minister of the united parishes of Cotarchy and Clova, to the church and parish of Auchterhouse, vacant by the translation of the Rev. George Addison to the united parishes of Liff and Benvie.

29.—Mr Oswald of Auchincruive has presented the Rev. Anthony Dow, minister of Kilspindie, in the Presbytery of Perth, to the church and parish of Kirkpatrick Irongray, in the Presbytery of Dumfries.

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METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

THE month of November has been as remarkable for an unusually high temperature, as October was for the contrary. Instead of that gradual diminution of heat which might be expected, and which is generally found to take place as the season advances, it has actually been on the increase, the average of November being more than 3 degrees above that of October. Up to the 24th, the thermometer never sunk below 35, and only eight times below 40. On that day it stood at 31, and, during the night, sunk to 30¼. A fall of snow, to the depth of two inches, succeeded; but though, on the morning of the 26th, there was every appearance of a settled frost, in less than 12 hours the snow disappeared, and, at 10 the same evening, the thermometer stood at 50. Similar fluctuations took place in the state of the Barometer, and the Hygrometer was generally low. The wind, during the month, though never violent, was frequently high; and the weather altogether, notwithstanding the quantity of rain that fell, was not what is generally experienced in the month of November. The mean state of the atmosphere, with regard to dryness, was 0.00186 grains of moisture to the cubic inch.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

NOVEMBER 1817.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	50.083
. . . . . cold,	40.066
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	45.200
. . . . . 10 P. M.	44.850
. . . of daily extremes,	45.075
. . . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	45.025
. . . 4 daily observations,	45.050

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 48)	29.649
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 49)	29.604
. . . both (temp. of mer. 48½)	29.626

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	8.266
. . . 10 P. M.	5.933
. . . both,	7.100
Rain in Inches,	2.705
Evaporation in ditto,	0.803
Fair days 12; rainy days 18,	30
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	21
. from E. side of meridian, including S.	9

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Greatest heat, 4th,	56.500
Greatest cold, 25th	30.500
Highest 10 A. M. 4th,	54.000
Lowest ditto, 26th,	33.000
Highest 10 P. M. 17th,	54.000
Lowest ditto, 25th,	33.000

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. 19th,	30.250
Lowest ditto, 9th,	29.050
Highest 10 P. M. 1st,	30.015
Lowest ditto, 8th,	28.890

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. 27th,	15.000
Lowest ditto, 5th,	0.000
Highest 10 P. M. 23d,	15.000
Lowest ditto, 4th,	0.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, 15th,	0.505
Least ditto, 10th,	0.002
Greatest mean daily evap. 16th to 20th,	0.036
Least ditto, 6th to 10th,	0.015

General character of the period: mild, wettish, and variable.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Caltonhill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day, at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

	Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Nov. 1	M. 37	29.574	M. 39	W.	Verystormy, rain & snow.
	E. 44	.901	E. 42		
2	M. 45	.406	M. 43	W.	Showery, wind high.
	E. 48	.636	E. 47		
3	M. 43	.843	M. 44	S. W.	Fr. m. r. for. cold night.
	E. 48	.651	E. 49		
4	M. 55	.666	M. 52	W.	Mild, clear, wind mod.
	E. 52	.680	E. 52		
5	M. 50	.461	M. 50	W.	Mild, heavy rain even.
	E. 47	.411	E. 52		
6	M. 41	.642	M. 47	S. W.	Mild day, fr. at night.
	E. 41	.642	E. 45		
7	M. 45	.563	M. 47	S.	Dull, but mild.
	E. 52	.119	E. 52		
8	M. 48	28.946	M. 49	S.	Mild, rather dull.
	E. 46	.750	E. 48		
9	M. 45	.915	M. 47	N. W	Rainy night, fair day.
	E. 44	.915	E. 46		
10	M. 50	29.489	M. 49	W.	Mild, sunsh. wind mod.
	E. 50	.577	E. 50		
11	M. 49	.259	M. 49	S. W.	Mild, rain af. wind mod.
	E. 41	.273	E. 47		
12	M. 41	.374	M. 54	S. E.	Dull, wind moderate.
	E. 48	.158	E. 49		
13	M. 42	.527	M. 45	S. E.	Mild, wind moderate.
	E. 40	.457	E. 45		
14	M. 47	.256	M. 47	Cble.	Dull, rain at night.
	E. 47	.204	E. 47		
15	M. 44	.104	M. 45	S. E.	Dull and showery.
	E. 44	.104	E. 45		
Nov. 16	M. 46	29.351	M. 45	S. E.	Mild, showery.
	E. 47	.448	E. 49		
17	M. 47	.750	M. 47	S. W.	Mild, with rain.
	E. 55	.757	E. 52		
18	M. 50	.567	M. 52	W.	Showery, high wind.
	E. 44	.831	E. 48		
19	M. 46	30.101	M. 47	N. W.	Mild, sunshine.
	E. 45	.160	E. 46		
20	M. 43	.101	M. 45	W.	Dull and cold.
	E. 47	29.730	E. 48		
21	M. 45	.494	M. 47	Cble.	Mild, sunshine.
	E. 45	.845	E. 45		
22	M. 43	.790	M. 45	Cble.	Fair, sunsh. rather cold.
	E. 43	.704	E. 45		
23	M. 43	.679	M. 45	W.	Ditto.
	E. 40	.556	E. 45		
24	M. 35	.562	M. 43	N. W.	Cold and sleet.
	E. 31	.246	E. 39		
25	M. 31	.655	M. 40	N. W.	Fair, but frosty.
	E. 35	.555	E. 36		
26	M. 49	.486	M. 36	W.	Snowy night fresh after.
	E. 49	.441	E. 45		
27	M. 49	.627	M. 49	N. W.	Wd. high nt. rain evening.
	E. 42	.627	E. 49		
28	M. 42	.451	M. 45	W.	Mild, sunsh. rain evening.
	E. 48	.451	E. 49		
29	M. 45	.460	M. 47	S. W.	Mild, sunsh. wind mod.
	E. 51	.262	E. 50		
30	M. 45	.548	M. 47	S. W.	Dull, high ind.
	E. 46	.585	E. 47		

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State of the Barometer, &c. from the 15th of November to the 14th December 1817, *in the Vicinity of Edinburgh.*

1817.	Barom.	Thermo.	Rain.	Weather.	1817.	Barom.	Thermo.	Rain.	Weather.
		M. N.	In.P.				M. N.	In.P.	
Nov. 15	29.3	45 49	0.2	Rain	Dec. 1	29.49	45 50		Clear
16	29.61	41 49	0.1	ditto	2	29.5	37 38	0.01	Showers
17	29.9	41 50	0.09	ditto	3	29.8	35 39		Cloudy
18	29.7	50 47	0.01	Showers	4	29.75	35 39		ditto
19	30.21	44 48		Cloudy	5	29.3	40 45	0.06	Rain
20	30.21	43 48	0.02	Showers	6	29.25	35 40		Clear
21	29.71	45 46		Clear	7	29.25	36 40		ditto
22	29.9	42 45		ditto	8	28.9	37 39		Cloudy
23	29.85	42 44		ditto	9	29.32	34 34	0.19	Rain
24	29.5	38 40		ditto	10	29 45	28 32		Clear
25	29.8	31 34		ditto	11	29.6	25 33		Cloudy
26	29.8	38 45	0.05	Snow	12	29.2	25 34		Clear
27	29.75	43 51		Clear	13	29.2	32 38		Cloudy
28	29.74	40 46		ditto	14	29.5	38 38		Clear
29	29.8	43 47		ditto					
30	29.65	42 45	0.04	Showers					
							Quantity of Rain 0.75		

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

THE month of November having been generally mild, a great deal of wheat was sown on fallows and bean-lands in excellent order; the pastures were still fresh, growing, and abundant; turnips continued to improve, and the plough moved forward without interruption. The labours of the season are accordingly in a forward state, notwithstanding the lateness of the harvest. What part of the crop remained on the field at the date of our last report, has been secured in a better condition than could be then expected. Within these few days there has been a keen frost, which is now succeeded by moderate rains. Of the abundance or quality of the last crop, little remains to be added to what we have stated formerly. The dampness, and otherwise inferior description of what has hitherto been brought to market, is not, however, we hope, a fair criterion by which to judge of the whole produce; for, besides the lateness of the harvest, it is well known to be the practice of farmers, except in the instance of wheat for seed, to dispose of the inferior part of the crop first, and, unfortunately, this bears too large a proportion to the whole this season. The prices throughout November rose gradually, but have lately become stationary. On the 15th, the ports were closed against all foreign grain, flour, and meal, barley excepted, but still continue open to importation from the British colonies in North America; a circumstance which does not appear to have had any effect on the market. In live stock, for which the great markets of the season are now past, there has been a considerable fluctuation during the last three months, and the reports are somewhat different from distant quarters; but, upon the whole, it would appear that the prices of the early part of that period have not been supported at its conclusion, though the medium rates are certainly higher than last year. No material alteration can be noted in the price of butcher meat, which, in this market, still fetches from 6s. to 7s. per stone, of 17½ lb. avoirdupois. The failure of Hops, the price of which is now quoted so high as L. 34 a pocket, is said to have brought an immense profit to a few growers in Kent, whose crops happened to be almost exclusively fine; one of them is reported to have realized a fortune of not less than L. 90,000 from the produce of the present year. In consequence of the scarcity and high price of this article, it had been proposed to admit foreign hops free of duty, but this measure does not seem to have met with the approbation of government. Seeds are at advanced prices:—Canary 86s. to 100s.; hemp-seed 95s. to 105s.; linseed 56s. to 90s. per quarter; new rape-seed, per last, L. 54 to L. 56; linseed oil-cake at the mill, L. 15 per thousand, of 3 libs. each; rape-cake L. 12 per ditto of ditto; clover-seed is expected to be high, the produce of this year having been little better than that of last; red is now quoted at from 40s. to 105s., and white from 50s. to 108s.

12th December.

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CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817.	Wheat. Boll	Wheat. Prices	Wheat. Av. pr	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Quar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck.
		s. s.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.
Nov. 19	—	32 49	— —	28 36	18 30	26 30 0	13	10
26	651	26 50	41 9	28 36	20 30	27 31 6	13	10
Dec. 3	538	28 49	41 0	27 36	16 32	28 34 0	13	10
10	439	32 49	42 13	28 34	25 35	29 34 0	13	10

1817.	Oatmeal. Boll	Oatmeal. Peck.	Ba. & Pmeal. Bolls.	Ba. & Pmeal. Peck.
		s. d.		s. d.
Nov. 18	376	1 10	69	1 4
25	409	1 10	68	1 4
Dec. 2	368	2 0	59	1 5
9	458	2 0	79	1 5

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	Wheat, 240 lbs. For. red.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Oats, 264 lbs. Scots.	Oats, 264 lbs. Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Barley, 320 lbs. Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stir.	Bns. & Pse. Mea.	Oatmeal, 140 lbs.	Flour, 280 lbs.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.		s. s.	s. s.
Nov. 19	46 55	41 44	— —	20 29	24 30	28 31	34 44	30 38	26 30		25 28	70 75
26	52 58	48 52	— —	24 35	28 34	32 36	38 46	38 46	30 35		28 30	75 80
Dec. 2	52 58	48 52	— —	28 36	28 36	32 36	38 46	38 46	30 35		28 30	75 80
9	52 58	41 54	— —	28 36	28 36	32 36	38 46	38 46	30 35		30 32	75 80

Haddington.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Wheat. Prices.	Wheat. Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Nov. 21	818	28 48 0	40 11	29 37	21 30	28 35	28 35
28	1110	25 48 0	38 5	30 39	20 30	27 35	28 36
Dec. 5	883	27 46 0	39 7	30 41	20 33	25 33	29 37
12	948	20 46 6	40 8	30 41	20 31	26 34	26 35

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Oatmeal. Per Peck.
	s. d. s. d.	d. d.
Nov. 17	20 0 26 0	19 20
24	23 0 27 0	20 21
Dec. 1	24 0 28 0	21 22
8	27 0 30 0	22 23

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pot.	Oats. Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Beans. Tick.	Pease. Boiling.	Pease. Grey.	Flour, 280lb. Fine.	Flour, 280lb. 2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
Nov. 17	48 89	35 40	56 58	18 30	26 40	42 45	34 44	52 58	40 52	75 80	70 75	14
24	42 100	36 44	50 52	20 30	28 40	42 54	32 54	52 58	38 50	75 80	70 75	14
Dec. 1	42 100	32 48	18 52	15 19	36 41	34 58	34 48	53 60	38 50	75 80	70 75	14
8	56 108	36 45	30 52	19 33	25 35	42 60	34 52	52 58	42 48	75 80	70 75	14

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb.	Flour. Irish.	Flour. Amer. 196 lb.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Scots.	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Irish.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Nov. 11	11 0 14 0	4 0 4 6	4 6 6 0	36 38	60 65	52 70	64 68	— —	57 59	34 38	30 34	28 32
18	12 6 15 0	4 0 4 9	5 6 7 0	36 38	60 65	52 70	64 68	— —	60 62	40 42	36 38	34 36
25	13 6 15 6	4 6 5 0	6 0 7 6	40 42	65 70	52 70	66 70	— —	66 68	42 45	40 42	38 40
Dec. 2	13 0 14 0	4 6 5 0	6 0 8 0	42 46	65 70	50 68	63 68	— —	66 68	40 42	36 38	— —

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatm. 140 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 8	79 3	46 2	43 6	27 2	47 4	48 3	33 4
15	80 5	46 9	43 8	27 3	48 2	48 2	32 11
22	81 6	46 9	44 5	28 3	49 10	49 10	33 4
29	82 9	46 11	45 4	28 2	49 11	48 4	33 0

Maritime Districts.

1817.	Dtrs.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 8	8	80 6	44 11	42 8	25 5	45 9	45 3
15	15	82 3	44 11	43 3	25 7	47 3	43 7
22	22	83 4	45 6	43 11	27 1	49 —	50 3
29		— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —

Aggregate Averages of the Twelve Maritime Districts of England and Wales, by which *Importation* and *Duty* are regulated in Great Britain.

Wheat, 79s. 7d.—Rye, 44s. 4d.—Barley, 42s. 0d.—Oats, 25s. 5d.—Beans, 45s. 9d.—Pease, 45s. 0d.—Rapeseed, 100s.—Oatmeal, 32s. 2d.

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th Nov.

Wheat, 69s. 3d.—Rye, 59s. 5d.—Barley, 41s. 2d.—Oats, 31s. 1d.—Beans, 53s. 0d.—Pease, 52s. 11d.—Oatmeal, 26s. 6d.—Bear or Big, 38s. 2d.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

Colonial Produce.—*Sugars.*—The market still continues dull, with little variation in prices; but as it is now thought that Muscovadoes have declined to moderate prices, an improved demand is expected. Refined goods have experienced a decline of about 4s. in the course of the month. In foreign there has scarcely been any business done. *Coffee.*—The demand has been confined; holders, however, evince much firmness, and will not submit to any reduction of prices. *Cotton.*—An unusual number of buyers attended the sale at the India-house, which was very brisk; 4491 bags Surats were disposed of, at and after the sale, at a reduction of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. of the top prices of the former sale; of 5812 Bengals, 3375 were sold about 0¾d. per lb. above the prices previously expected; the lower qualities were taken in by the proprietors, about 10¼d.; the whole subject to a duty of 1d. per lb. if taken for home consumption. *Rum.*—About the middle of November, in consequence of a report that the French government had agreed to admit rum for the use of the allied armies, there were extensive transactions, and the article rose 6d. to 1s. per gallon. The question of its admission into France being yet, however, unsettled, the market has become heavy, and prices have fallen a little. *Spices.*—Since the East India sale, there has been little variation in prices, but generally the market is improving. *Tobacco.*—Holders evince a great desire to effect sales, but the demand is not extensive. Marylands are a shade higher; for cargoes, 67s. and 68s. are asked. Virginia, in cargoes, 55s. and 66s. Kentucky, 48s. to 56s. *Oil.*—The prices have declined since our last, and there is at present scarcely any business doing.

European Produce.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—The prices of yellow candle tallow, which had declined to 66s. have again advanced; but there is not as much briskness as towards the close of last week. Hemp and flax are in demand, and prices have considerably advanced. *Brandy and Geneva.*—Brandy continues to rise, on account of the scarcity. Geneva is 3d. to 6d. per gallon higher.

British Manufactures are in full life and activity. Accounts from Boston state, that Manchester goods were selling there at very good prices, and the market for them was quick. The German papers, however, giving an account of Leipsic fair, state, that English manufactures were offered at such high prices, that domestic articles were bought in preference. The English merchants (they observe) only sell at low prices when they wish to get rid of damaged or old-fashioned articles.—*Dec.* 2.

Course of Exchange, London, Nov. 28.—Amsterdam, 37 : 6 B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 0. Rotterdam, 11 : 11 : 2 U. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Antwerp, 11 : 11 Ex. M. Hamburgh, 34 : 7 : 2½ U. Altona, 34 : 8 : 2½ U. Paris, three days sight, 24 : 40 U. Bourdeaux, 24 : 60. Frankfort on the Maine, 145 Ex. M. Madrid, 38 effect. Cadiz, 37¾ effect. Gibraltar, 33. Leghorn, 49½. Lisbon, 59. Rio Janeiro, 63. Dublin, 8¼ per cent. Cork, 8¼.

Prices of Gold and Silver, per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, £4 : 0 : 6. Foreign gold, in bars, £4 : 0 : 6. New doubloons, £4. New dollars, £0 : 5 : 3¼. Silver, in bars, standard, L.0 : 5 : 3½.

Premiums of Insurance at Lloyd's—Guernsey or Jersey, 20s. to 25s. Cork, or Dublin, 25s. Belfast, 25s. to 30s. Hamburgh, 40s. to 50s. Madeira, 20s. to 25s. Jamaica, 40s.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds from November 11 *to December* 3, 1817.

	Nov. 11th.	18th.	26th.	Dec. 3d.
Bank stock,	290½	290½	290	291
3 per cent. reduced,	82⅞	83	82½	82½
3 per cent. consols,	83⅝	83½	83⅛	83⅜
4 per cent. consols,	99⅛	99⅝	99⅜	99½
5 per cent. navy ann.	108½	109	109	109
Imperial 3 per cent. ann.	——	——	——	81¼
India stock,	249	——	246½	248
—— bonds,	100pr.	99pr.	99pr.	96pr.
Exchequer bills, 2d.	20pr.	19 21pr.	20pr.	18 19pr.
—— 2½d.	22 28pr.	21 27pr.	21 27pr.	19 23pr.
—— 3d.	19 20pr.	19 20pr.	19 20pr.	17 18pr.
Consols for acc.	85⅛	83⅞	84⅛	83⅞
American 3 per cent.	65	——	——	——
—— new loan, 6 p. cent.	103½	——	——	——
French 5 per cents.	65fr. 70c.	64fr. 80c.	64fr. 15c.	63fr. 95c.

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PRICES CURRENT.—Dec. 6.

	Leith.		Glasgow.		Liverpool.		per
Sugar, *Musc.*							
B. P. Dry Brown,	75 @	—	72 @	75	72 @	75	cwt.
Mid. good, and fine mid.	80	86	76	83	76	89	
Fine and very fine,	88	92	—	—	90	93	
Refined, Double Loaves,	150	155	—	—	—	—	
Powder ditto,	124	128	—	—	—	—	
Single ditto,	118	124	116	118	123	126	
Small Lumps,	114	118	110	112	124	128	
Large ditto,	110	114	105	108	112	118	
Crushed Lumps,	65	70	—	—	67	70	
Molasses, British,	38	39	35	37	38	—	
Coffee, *Jamaica*,							
Ord. good, and fine ord.	82	87	78	90	82	88	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	90	100	91	96	89	100	
Dutch, Triage and very ord.	72	82	—	—	72	82	
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86	92	—	—	84	91	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	92	101	—	—	92	101	
St Domingo,	—	—	86	90	85	91	
Pimento (in Bond),	8½	9	9	9½	9	9¼	lb.
Spirits, Jamaica Rum, 16 O. P.	4s 4d	4s 6d	3s 10	4s 0	3s 6	3s 8	gall.
Brandy,	13 9	14 0	—	—	—	—	
Geneva,	4 6	4 9	—	—	—	—	
Grain Whisky,	3 0	3 3	—	—	—	—	
Wines, Claret, 1st Growths,	45	50	—	—	—	—	hhd.
Portugal Red,	38	45	—	—	—	—	pipe.
Spanish White,	30	55	—	—	—	—	butt.
Teneriffe,	30	35	—	—	—	—	pipe.
Madeira,	60	70	—	—	—	—	
Logwood, Jamaica,	£8	£8 10	£7 10	£8 10	£8 5	£8 15	ton.
Honduras,	8	9	8 10	—	9 0	—	
Campeachy,	9	10	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 10	
Fustic, Jamaica,	12	13	12 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	
Cuba,	17	—	—	—	17 0	17 15	
Indigo, Caraccas fine,	9s 6d	11s 6d	8s 6	9s 6	9s 0	11s 6	lb.
Timber, American Pine,	2 3	2 6	—	—	2 3	2 4	foot.
Ditto Oak,	4 6	5 6	—	—	—	—	
Christiansand (duties paid),	2 4	2 5	—	—	—	—	
Honduras Mahogany,	0 11	1 4	0 10	1 8	1 1	1 5	
St Domingo ditto,	—	—	1 2	3 0	1 9	2 5	
Tar, American,	—	—	—	—	16 0	17 0	brl.
Archangel,	22	23	—	—	21 0	23 0	
Pitch, Foreign,	14	—	—	—	—	—	cwt.
Tallow, Russia Yellow Candle,	76	78	74	76	70	71	
Home melted,	68	—	—	—	—	—	
Hemp, Riga Rhine,	£47	48	£43	£44	£—	—	ton.
Petersburgh Clean,	45	46	41	42	45	46	
Flax, Riga Thies. and Druj. Rak.	63	—	—	—	—	—	
Dutch,	50	120	—	—	—	—	
Irish,	52	53	—	—	—	—	stone
Mats, Archangel,	£6 0	£6 6	—	—	—	—	100
Bristles, Petersburgh Firsts,	16 10	£17	—	—	—	—	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl,	63s	—	—	—	—	—	
Montreal ditto,	60s	62s	60s	62s	60	—	
Pot,	46s	47s	49s	50s	49s 0	50s 0	
Oil, Whale,	55	—	52	53	57	58	tun.
Cod,	55 (p. brl.)	—	45	46	45	—	
Tobacco, Virginia fine,	8	9	8½	9	0 8	0 9	lb.
middling,	7	8	7½	7¾	0 6½	0 7	
inferior,	6½	7	7	7½	0 4½	—	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia,	—	—	1 7	1 10	1 6	1 9½	
Sea Island, fine,	—	—	2 7	2 9	2 5	2 6	
good,	—	—	2 4	2 6	2 3	2 4	
middling,	—	—	2 2	2 3	1 11	2 2	
Demerara and Berbice,	—	—	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 1	
West India,	—	—	1 8	2 0	1 8	1 9	
Pernambuco,	—	—	2 1	2 2	2 0	2 1	
Maranham,	—	—	2 0	2 1	1 11	2 0	

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Alphabetical List of English Bankrupts, announced between October 31 and November 30, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Aaron, A. Plymouth Dock, silversmith
Appleby, R. North Shields, cabinetmaker
Aldham, W. Great Hotham, miller
Allwright, S. London, haberdasher
Atherstone, H. Nottingham, dyer
Abram, T. Rufford, innkeeper
Archer, T. London, bootmaker
Ambrose, T., and T. Fawell, London, wine merchants
Bartlett, R. Westminster, wheelwright
Beard, W. J. London, smith
Beldon, B. Keighly, York, iron-founder
Banfield, E. St Philip and Jacob, cooper
Brandon, J. N. London, merchant
Bridgman, J. N. Tavistock, money scrivener
Becket, W. P. Wakefield, linen-draper
Baum, J. London, victualler
Belling, W. Essex, druggist
Bennet, S. Bath, broker
Bolshaw, J. Liverpool, plumber and glazier
Bell, J. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, stationer
Bray, J. S. and W. London, merchants
Butcher, U. Cambridge, scrivener
Broad, T. Bury, miller
Bradford, R. Bromyard, cordwainer
Carlisle, J. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, miller
Cook, J. Fareham, tanner
Collinsfield, J. Huddersfield, boat-builder
Cooper, H. Brixton, builder
Cowen, G. London, merchant
Cutler, A. London, painter
Cowdroy, W. Manchester, letter-press-printer
Charleton, G. York, tailor
Daniel, G., and W. Cross, Birmingham, merchants
Davis, W. Tredegar Iron-works, innholder
Dickinson, R. and J. London, brewers
Dyson, J. Meltham Mill, York, clothier
Downes, J. J. London, harnessmaker
Downs, S. M. Reading, cheesemonger
Eady, T. Woolwich, horse-dealer
Evans, M. senior, Llangernew, shopkeeper
Emeny, J. Dover, draper
Ellison, E. Torbock, flour-dealer
Fletcher, J., and W. Yeats, Brighton, tailors
Flack, J. London, victualler
Frith, W. Liversedge, clothier
Fothergill, G. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship-owner
Gregory, G. Sheffield, sugar-manufacturer
Goving, T. Staines, tailor
Grove, J. London, grocer
Green, R. Manchester, victualler
Green, J. Saltford, victualler
Harrison, J. Leeds, merchan
Harding, G., J. Hassall, and T. Overton, Liverpool, brewers
Horne, G. London, wine-merchant
Hall, W. Halifax, money scrivener
Howell, J. and B. Surrey, linen-drapers
Hutchinson, W. Middlesex, cheesemonger
Hawke, W. Lammerton, merchant
Hildebrandt, C. London, pictureseller
Hobson, J. Manchester, brazier
Holbrook, W. Bath, coachmaster
Hewitt, H. Sheffield, merchant
Heaton, J., M. Fleming, and M. Dyson, Almondbury, woollen-manufacturers
Kent, W. Bermondsey, Spanish leather dresser
Kendrick, F., and G. Tyndale, London, linen-drapers
Knight, J., and T. Ashby, London, fancy feather manufacturers
Kilner, W. and J. York, woollen-manufacturers
Kilsby, W. London, victualler
Kendrick, W. Daventry, grocer
Leigh, J. jun. Manchester, calico printer
Latham, J. Romsey, common brewer, &c.
Lingford, J. London, truss-maker
Lloyd, S. T. London, bookseller
Manners, J., and J. Cam, Sheffield, edge-tool manufacturers
Maxfield, T. Halstead, grocer
Mathieson, W., and G. R. Lapraik, London, tailors
Mitchell, J. Titchfield, linen-draper
Marsh, J. Pilkington, farmer
Moore, T. Burtonsham, farmer
Morse, H. London, cabinetmaker
Minor, W. London, merchant
Marsham, W. London, broker
Newman, E. Lambeth Marsh, brewer
Noble, G. London, merchant
Nicolson, J., and J. Brown, London, pin-manufacturers
Oliphant, J. London, hat-manufacturer
Oxham, R. Penzance, merchant
Oates, G. and G. jun. Sheffield, merchants
Overton, W. Birmingham, plater
Pollock, R. London, merchant
Paterson, R., and W. Nichol, London, nurserymen
Reston, D. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, porter-merchant
Pallet, C., and J. Power Massy, London, factors
Patterson, T. Stockport, draper
Parry, J. Denbigh, draper
Pickstock, T. Shrewsbury, mercer
Pitts, L. Thorpe Abbots, merchant
Powell, J. Tepsham, ropemaker
Philip, T. Newton Abbot, innholder
Piercy, E. New Farm, Oxford, farmer
Quinton, J. Devon and London, cyder and spirit merchant
Reay, T. South Shields, merchant
Richardson, J. Great St Helens, merchant
Roberts, J. London, silk-manufacturer
Rudd, F. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, milliner and dressmaker
Robson, J. London, stable-keeper
Ryan, J. Liverpool, merchant
Samuda, A. London, baker
Stanton, J. London, apothecary
Snow, S. London, dressmaker
Sowerby, S. jun. Bristol, cutler
Sharland, R. Exeter, saddler
Slater, J. Westminster, brewer
Spyer, S. London, merchant
Smith, J. Chepstow, cabinetmaker
Smith, W. London, spring-blind-maker
Smith, J. Shrewsbury, linen-draper
Smith, J. Holmfirth, York, clothier
Shore, E. Chardstock, miller
Saunders, J. G. London, warehouseman
Thurkle, G. M. London, wine-merchant
Tickner, G. Portsea, house-carpenter
Valentine, C. London, japanner
Waddell, T. London, warehouseman
Wade, W. Croydon, merchant
Walker, J. Bermondsey, glue-maker
West, T. London, perfumer and hair-merchant
Wainwright, G. London, bottle-merchant
Woods, G. Portsea, saddler
Wardle, M. Manchester, paper-dealer
Warner, J., and J. Lord, Derby, ironmongers
Williams, T. S., and T. Barnard, Cheltenham, grocers
Weaver, E. and C. Gloucester, pin-manufacturers
Ward, J. Liverpool, grocer
Yandall, Edward, London, corn-dealer

Alphabetical List of Scotch Bankrupts, announced between 30th October and 30th November 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Birnie, G. Portobello, builder
Grubb, J. Ardoch of Poyntsfield, Ross-shire, salmon fisher, &c.
Hepburn, J. of Wellsly, horse-dealer
Mackenzie, D. sen. Stornoway, ship-owner
Moncrieff, C. Edinburgh, grocer
Ritchie, T. Glenaharrich, Argyllshire, cattle-dealer
Stewart, J. and Co. Paisley, merchants

DIVIDENDS.

Baxter, W. W. Dundee, merchant; by J. G. Russell, merchant there, 28th December
Blaikie, R. late of Dalkeith, candle-maker; by M. Burd, W. S. Edinburgh, 30th November

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Callum, J. Auchenblae, merchant; by D. Wyllie, merchant, Montrose, 18th December
Hutchison, J. jun. Haddington, cattle-dealer; in the Sheriff-clerk's office there, 19th December
Maclellan, W. and Co. Crossmichael and Kirkcudbright, timber-merchants; by S. Maccaul, merchant, Kirkcudbright, 26th November
Miller, Jas. Glasgow, merchant; by R. Aitken, merchant there, 5th December
Primerose, G. partner of Stewart, Primerose, and Co. Leith, merchants; by P. Borthwick, merchant there, 18th December
Webster and Finlay, Montrose, merchants; by C. Barclay, merchant there, 22d December.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

August 18. At Coassola, a woman named Madaleine Casarsa, of a daughter, who died four days afterwards; and 47 days after her first accouchement, she was delivered of twin daughters, who only lived five days. The mother has not experienced the slightest indisposition.

September 27. At Lausanne, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Wauchope, a daughter.

October 6. At Corfu, the lady of the Hon. Colonel Patrick Stuart, a son.

9. In Upper Harley Street, London, Mrs Stuart, a daughter.

16. At Hatton Castle, the lady of Garden Duff, Esq. a son.

26. At Tunbridge, the lady of the Rev. Charles Hardinge, a daughter.

31. At Ruchill, Mrs Maclean, younger of Coll, a daughter.

November 4. Mrs Robert Yuille, Madeira Court, Glasgow, a son.

5. At Maxpoffle, Mrs Scott, younger of Raeburn, a Son.

— At Edmondstone, the lady of John Wauchope, Esq. a daughter.

6. At Edinburgh, Mrs Lee, St Andrews, a son.

— In Heriot Row, Edinburgh, the lady of Sir James Douglas, K. C. B. a son.

8. At Stevenson, the lady of Sir John Gordon Sinclair, Bart. a daughter.

10. At his Grace's seat, Chevely, near Newmarket, her Grace the Duchess of Rutland, a son.

11. At Broughty Ferry, the lady of Sir William Wiseman, Bart. a daughter.

12. At Bath, the lady of Captain Buckle, R. N. a son.

13. At Dulwich, in Surrey, the lady of Sir Robert Graham, Bart. a son.

14. At Kensington, the lady of Captain Spence, R. N. a daughter.

— At Houghton, Yorkshire, the lady of the Hon. Charles Langdale, a daughter.

15. The lady of Major-General Need, a son.

16. At Content House, near Ayr, the lady of Captain Archibald Fullarton, a daughter.

— At Edinburgh, the lady of Captain Stedman, a daughter.

16. At Dalkeith, the wife of John Robertson, a poor industrious day-labourer, two sons and a daughter.

17. At Auchlunies, Mrs Gordon, a son.

18. The lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Balfour, a son.

20. Lady Frances Buchanan Riddell, a son.

— At Littleton, in Middlesex, the Right Hon. Lady Caroline Wood, a son.

22. At his residence in Albemarle Street, London, the lady of Sir W. Adams, a daughter.

23. The Countess of Abingdon, a son.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Greig of Hallgreig, a daughter.

25. In Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Mrs Tytler of Woodhouselee, a daughter.

26. In Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Lady Elizabeth Hope Vere, a daughter.

Lately—At Lisbon, the lady of Brigadier-General Sir John Campbell, a daughter.

The lady of J. D. Alexander, Esq. of Hanover Square, London, a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.

September 13. At the British Ambassador's in Paris, Captain Acton of the cavalry lancers, son to General Acton, and nephew of the late Sir John Acton, Bart. of Aldenham, Shropshire, to Charlotte, the only daughter of Dr Clugston, late of Bombay.

October 7. At Mount Pleasant, in the King's County, the Earl of Desart, to Catherine, eldest daughter of Maurice N. O'Connor, Esq.

20. At Glasgow, Mr James Corbett, merchant, eldest son of James Corbett, Porterfield, Esq. to Mary, only daughter of the late William Moncrieff, Esq. of the Honourable East India Company's service.

28. At Fortrose, Donald Charles Cameron, Esq. of Berbice, to Elizabeth Fraser Mathison, daughter of Colin Mathison, Esq. of Bennet's Field, Ross-shire.

November 1. At Tarbet House, John Buckle, Esq. of Sussex, to Miss Hay Mackenzie, eldest daughter of the late Edward Hay Mackenzie, Esq. of Newhall and Cromarty.

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3. At St James's Church, London, Captain Pakenham, R. N. to Caroline, third daughter of Sir Home Popham.

— At Aberdeen, Lieutenant-Colonel Martin Lindsay, of the 78th Highlanders, C. B. to Miss Elsy Hadden, second daughter of James Hadden, Esq. of that place.

— At Stroquhan, Roger Kirkpatrick, Esq. son of the late Sir James Kirkpatrick, Bart. of Closeburn, to Lilias, third daughter of Robert Anderson, Esq. of Stroquhan.

11. At Mellness, Matthew Townsend Bethune, Esq. Inverness, to Jane, eldest daughter of Donald Forbes, Esq. of Mellness.

12. At Kilmarnock, John Craufurd, Esq. of Gilknock-hall, Jamaica, to Miss Frances Gordon, daughter of the late John Gordon, Esq. of Carleton.

13. At Gretna Green, Lieutenant Rowland Pennington, late of the 5th foot, to Georgiana, only daughter of Dymoke Wells, Esq. of Grebby Hall, Lincolnshire.

14. At Culzean Castle, Lord Viscount Kinnaird, son of the Earl of Newburgh, to Lady Margaret Kennedy, third daughter of the Earl of Cassillis.

16. At Downpatrick, Ireland, David Thomas, Esq. 92d, or Gordon Highlanders, to Miss Caldos, daughter of Captain Caldos, Donegal militia.

— John Hunter, Esq. of Upper Halloway, Middlesex, to Jessie, daughter of John Young, Esq. of Bellwood.

25. At Edinburgh, Captain F. Thomas Hutchinson, of the East India Company's military service in Bengal, to Miss Isabella Mitchelson, third daughter of the late Archibald Hepburn Mitchelson, Esq. of Middleton.

— At Luffness, Thomas Darling, Esq. West Fortune, to Miss Alison Yule, youngest daughter of James Yule, Esq. of Gibslees.

DEATHS.

April 13. At Masulipatam, aged about 68 years, Lieutenant-General Croker, of the Madras establishment, whose military services, for upwards of 45 years, are well known, and justly appreciated by the army of the coast.

May 1. At Travancore, India, in the 38th year of his age, Captain Thomas Arthur, of the engineer corps, Madras establishment, son of the Rev. Mr Arthur, Risolis, Ross-shire. Captain Arthur began his military career under General Harris, in the memorable campaign of 1799, and was one of the party which that year stormed Seringapatam. After the consequent conquest of Mysore, he was one of those selected to make a survey of the conquered country, which occupied him several years. While engaged in this undertaking, he was one day on a high hill nearly surprised by a royal tiger; but the animal being, for the time, scared away, Captain Arthur soon after went in pursuit of the monster, whom he found and killed in the most cool and daring manner, without any assistance—a sepoy and native who accompanied him, having fled, on seeing the animal advance open-mouthed, and with hideous roaring. In the course of his survey, he discovered a copper mine, from which great expectations have been entertained. Captain Arthur remained in India after the year 1799 till his death; bore his share in the different wars which have since taken place there; and his name appeared more than once in the general orders issued by the Governor-General, thanking the army for their gallant exertions.

June 13. At Kakundy, on the Rio Nunez, in Upper Guinea, on his return from the interior of Africa, Captain Thomas Campbell, of the royal staff corps, then commanding the expedition intended to explore the course of the Niger. This valuable officer, from whose talents, zeal, and eminent acquirements, much was to have been expected, fell a sacrifice to the severity of a tropical climate, and to the fatigue, anxiety, and privation to which the whole of his party had for some time been exposed. The expedition was intended, in some degree, to trace the route of the lamented Park, proceeding by the shortest course from the coast, across the mountains of Kong, and keeping southward of the Moorish population to the upper part of the Joliba or Niger, and thence descending that river to form a junction with the maritime expedition which had previously entered the Congo. The command had originally been entrusted to Major Peddie, an officer of enterprise, but who, unfortunately, fell ill, and died on the 1st of January 1817, ere the party left the river Nunez—and about the same time the expedition lost a valuable officer in Lieutenant Macrae, who had joined only a few days. Captain Campbell afterwards proceeded by land about 150 miles farther into the interior, to the river Panyetta, and near the mountains. The King of Teembo, in whose territories they were, was then at war with the Tendoo country, and declined granting permission for them to proceed farther, at least until the end of the campaign. In the mean time, the rainy season set in, and Captain Campbell having lost many of his companions, and the greater part of his beasts of burden, found it equally impossible to remain or to proceed. He resolved, therefore, to retrace his steps to the coast, and, after undergoing great privations, arrived at Kakundy on the 8th of June, and collected vessels for transporting his men to Sierra Leone, until the expedition should be refitted, and a more favourable opportunity should permit its prosecution. He was not, however, destined to fulfil this in-

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tention. The severity of his sufferings had reduced his frame to a state of extreme debility, and the disappointment of his hopes had deeply preyed upon his mind. On the 10th of June he was taken ill, and confined to bed, and on the 13th he expired.—Captain Campbell was a native of Caithness. He resided for many years in Dublin, of which city an excellent map, from actual survey, was made by him. To his friends he was endeared by the mildness of his manners, and unassuming merits,—and from the pains he had taken to qualify himself in every way for the task he had undertaken, they confidently looked forward to his distinguishing himself in the elucidation of African geography.

July 24. At sea, on his passage from Demerara to Quebec, at the age of 24 years, Lieutenant Robert Mackenzie, of the 60th regiment, third son of Gilbert Mackenzie, late at Invershin, now at Rearchar, Sutherlandshire.

August 7. At Jamaica, in the 19th year of his age, Mr George Campbell, eldest son of the Rev. Dr Campbell, minister of Ancrum.

17. At Constantinople, Isaac Morier, Esq. his Majesty's Consul-General in the Turkish dominions.

September 12. At the Cape of Good Hope, Mr Thomas Sheridan. He has left a widow and several children, two of whom are now at the Cape, and, we believe, were born there. He was one of the pupils of the venerable Dr Parr, from whose tuition he proceeded to Cambridge. For a short time he served in the army, and was with the Earl of Moira, as his Aid-de-Camp in Scotland, when he formed an attachment to the lady he has now left, the daughter of a Scotch gentleman of the name of Callender. Either immediately before, or soon after his death, Mrs Sheridan broke a blood vessel, but was recovering when our account came away. The situation held by Mr Sheridan is that of Colonial Paymaster, the duties of which are very slight, and the emoluments one thousand pounds a year. Although the state of his health prevented him sharing, in the usual way, the luxuries of the table, his convivial faculties were as popular at the Cape as those of his father were in England, and his house was frequented by parties from the garrison and the civil department. He was the son of Richard Brinsley Sheridan by his first wife, the daughter of Mr Linley, and was the only child of that marriage. Thus, in little more than a year, have fallen three members of the same family, all well known to the world—the orator, the widow, and his son.

September 19. At Nassau, New Providence, the Rev. Hugh Macfarlane, M. D. minister of the Presbyterian church of St Andrew in that town. He arrived in the month of June last, and his demeanour there fully justified the recommendation which he brought, that of "an able, an evangelical, and conscientious minister."

October 2.—At Crieff, John Murray, Esq. Laird of Ardbenie, in Perthshire, a Justice of Peace for the county, Lieutenant of his Majesty's Fleet, and Marine Surveyor to the Right Hon. Board of Admiralty. During a long and valuable service, this excellent officer made some important discoveries on the coast of New Holland, and surveyed and drew plans of the principal harbours of the kingdom.

4. At Bath, the Lady of Sir Robert Kingsmill of Sidmonton House, in the county of Southampton, Bart.

9. At Annan, Mr John Lawson, merchant, one of the magistrates of that town.

15. At Soleure, on the 15th ult. the brave, disinterested, and virtuous Kosciusko. A singular felicity of reputation has ever attended this admirable citizen and warrior. In the cause of genuine liberty he fought against injustice, and shamed both the tyrants and Jacobins of the age. In his days of power, at the head of armies that adored his name, no false glory dazzled him, nor corrupt ambition could betray him. He nobly resisted the foreign potentates who had laid waste his country, not because they were kings and emperors, but because they were invaders and oppressors. He combated with no rebellious sword—for no ambiguous object. When Poland lost her independence, Kosciusko lost his home: as she sunk he rose; but not upon her ruins. The Court of Russia would have allured this illustrious defender of the people whom she had subjugated, by temptations irresistible to vulgar minds; Bonaparte would have made him the flattered instrument of a spurious and hollow liberty to his countrymen; but Kosciusko saw that their lot was irretrievable, and his own he refused to change. As a soldier and a patriot, in public life and in retirement, his principles were untainted, and his name unsullied; the monarchs whom he opposed respected him; the factions who failed to seduce, forbore to slander him; and he would have been the Washington, had he not been the Wallace, of Poland.

21. In the 27th year of his age, of a typhus fever, which he caught whilst administering the pastoral offices of religion to one of his flock, the Rev. James Dorian, R. C. curate of Dundalk.

24. Dr Donald M'Askill, of the island of Eigg, who was unfortunately drowned, off that island. He was proceeding from Airsaig to Eigg, in a boat, along with the Rev. Mr Fraser, minister of the Small Isles, when, by the starting of a plank, the boat instantly sunk, and he and Mr Fraser, with two men, perished. Dr M'Askill was

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a gentleman of the most amiable disposition, universally beloved, and endeared to the poor by every benevolent act. He has left a wife and ten children to lament his loss.

25. At Vienna, aged 92, the Baron de Jacquin. He was one of the first naturalists in Europe, the friend and correspondent of the celebrated Linnæus.

27. At Borrowstounness, Andrew Milne, Esq. late merchant there.

28. At his seat at Wallingwells, near Worksop, Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart.

— At Armagh, of the typhus fever, the Rev. Thos. Carpendale, Principal of the Endowed School of that city.

29. At Armagh, Major-General Burnett, commanding the troops in the north-eastern district of Ireland.

30. At her brother's house at Hilton, Miss Isabella Newton.

— At Ayr, in her 73d year, Mrs Jacobina Aiken, relict of the late John Murdoch, Esq. Sheriff-Substitute of the county of Ayr.

— At Ardrossan, Ayrshire, where she was for the benefit of her health, Janet Agnes Elizabeth, daughter of James Grierson of Dalgoner, Esq.

31. A few hours after the birth of a son and heir, the lady of Henry F. C. Cavendish, Esq. M. P.

— At Edinburgh, Emilia M'George, relict of the Rev. Adam Gib, late minister of the Associate congregation, Edinburgh.

November 1. At his house in James's Square, Edinburgh, after a severe and lingering illness, aged 63, John Graham, Esq. historical painter, and for many years Master of the Trustees' Academy in this city. Mr Graham was originally apprentice to Mr Farquhar, an eminent coach painter in Edinburgh at that time, from whence he went to London, and was employed in his occupation of coach painter for many years. In the meantime, being admitted a student of the Royal Academy, the fine collection of casts from the antique, and the society of many young men who have since risen to eminence in the highest departments of the art, extended his views, and inspired his mind with the desire of prosecuting the more elevated walk of historical painting, which he subsequently followed with great success. About the year 1798, he was appointed Master of the Trustees' Academy, vacant by the death of Mr David Allan, which situation he has filled ever since, with great credit to himself and advantage to his pupils, and the arts of this country in general. This academy, which was originally founded to promote the mechanical arts and manufactures of the country, for the instruction in drawing of carvers, painters, weavers, &c. became, on the accession of Mr Graham, a school of design. To this end the liberality of the Board of Trustees greatly contributed, by their procuring, at this time, for the use of the institution, a very magnificent set of casts from the antique, which is only surpassed in Britain by the collection of the Royal Academy of London. By this improvement in the condition of the academy, and the exertions of Mr Graham, the arts of the country have been carried to a greater pitch of excellence than they had ever attained before, and many young men who have received the rudiments of the art there, have since conferred, by their talents, the greatest honour on their country; of these, the names of Messrs Wilkie, the Burnets, and Allan, are already well known to the public. Mr Graham's principal works are, David instructing Solomon (in the possession of the Earl of Wemyss)—the Burial of General Fraser—two pictures for the Shakespeare Gallery, &c. He also executed many smaller works, and some portraits. His composition, though not remarkable for any striking originality of conception, is pure and chaste. In the distribution of his groupes in his large works, he was singularly fortunate. His drawing, though without the vigour and energy of the Florentine School, is correct: his draperies are large and finely cast; his colouring excellent, and his handling broad and masterly. The few portraits which he has left exhibit little of the beauty so conspicuous in his historical works. He also executed several pictures of lions, tygers, &c. from studies made from nature in the menagerie of the Tower, wherein he has exhibited these animals with great truth and force of expression. From the circumstances of Mr Graham's situation in early life, his education was very limited, and his manners had little of the polish and courtly refinement which are necessary to give genuine worth its just estimation in the eyes of the world, and often give a currency even to mediocrity of talent, or laxity of principle. He was, however, friendly, honest, sincere, and independent, and highly regarded by those who knew his worth. To his pupils he was candid and communicative, and ever ready to give his advice. Since he settled in this city as Master of the Academy, the few works he has done can contribute little to his fame, as the apathy of the public towards the fine arts, particularly to the more dignified department of historical painting, afforded no stimulus for the exertion of his talents, and any thing he has executed since must rather be considered as filling up an idle hour, than done with the determination of exerting all his powers in its completion.

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Nov. 1. At Blair House, Mrs Blair of Blair. Her death was the consequence of an attack of apoplexy.

2. At Megginch Castle, Miss Jane Atholl Drummond of Megginch.

— Gilbert Bertram, Esq. merchant, Leith.

— At the manse of Stonykirk, Mr J. M. Blain, third son of the late Rev. Henry Blain, and who was one of the passengers on board the unfortunate Albion.

— At Kirkton house, Campsie, Mrs Maclachlan, wife of James J. Maclachlan, Esq. of Kilchoan, Argyllshire.

3. At Deptford, Lawrence Dundas Bruce, fourth son of the deceased Alexander Bruce of Kennet, Esq.

— In St Giles's, Norwich, John, the infant son of Dr Rigby, aged eleven weeks and three days, being the first in the series of the late quadruple birth. And on Wednesday last, Caroline Susan, aged eleven weeks and five days, being the fourth in the series of the same extraordinary birth, and the last surviving child.

4. At Glasgow, Mr Neil Marquis, merchant.

— At Clifton, aged 49, the Dowager Lady Smith, widow of Sir John Smith of Sydling, Bart. sister of W. A. Morland, Esq. of Lamberhurst, Kent.

5. At Invergowrie, James Menzies Clayhills, eldest son of James Clayhills, Esq. of Invergowrie, and late a Captain in the Royal Scots, in the 31st year of his age.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary Honyman, relict of the Rev. Alexander Nicholson, minister of Thurso, in the 89th year of her age.

6. At Sandbed poor-house, Dumfriesshire, Ann Sim, aged 70. She was remarkable for her pedestrian powers, as she was often known to walk to Dumfries and back again, a distance of 50 miles, by midday of the day she set out; as also to Edinburgh, and return thence in the space of forty hours, though the distance travelled is 174 miles.

8. At Carrickfergus, of a typhus fever, the Rev. George Hamilton, late of Armagh.

— At Broughton Hall, near Maidstone, Clement Archer, Esq. late Lieutenant-Colonel in the 16th, or Queen's Light Dragoons.

9. At Tunbridge Wells, Lady Sanderson.

10. At Govan House, Stewart Douglas, Esq. merchant in Glasgow.

11. At Edinburgh, Donald Maclachlan, Esq. of Maclachlan.

— At Saughtonhall, Lieutenant-Colonel Coll Macdonald, late of the Royals.

12. At her house in Piccadilly, London, Lady Evelyn, widow of Sir Frederick Evelyn, Bart.

— At Arran Lodge, Bognor, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of the late Sir John Tyrrell, Bart. of Heron, in the county of Essex, and only sister of the Countess of Arran.

12. At Edinburgh, aged 77, Mrs Lyall, relict of the late James Lyall, Esq. Provost of Montrose.

— At Kilmalcolm manse, the Rev. John Brown, minister of that parish, in the 69th year of his age, and 30th of his ministry.

13. At Edinburgh, the Rev. John Young, late minister of the Associate congregation, Kincardine.

14. At the house of her father, Mr Coke of Norfolk, the Right Hon. the Countess of Albemarle. This most amiable lady has left her disconsolate husband with eleven children to lament her irreparable loss. Her Ladyship was the early friend of the lamented Princess Charlotte, and the shock to her feelings on receiving the intelligence of her Royal Highness's death, brought on premature labour, to which she fell a victim.

— At Oakfield, Argyllshire, John Macneil, Esq. of Gigha, in the 88th year of his age.

— At Bushelhill, David Rochead, Esq. of Barnside, late writer in Haddington.

— At London, Arthur Balfour, Esq. late Major in the service of the East India Company.

15. At London, Major-General William Macculloch, of the Honourable East India Company's Bengal army, in the 67th year of his age.

16. At Drumsheugh, William Walker, Esq. of Coats.

— At Buntingford, Dr Robert Wood, youngest son of the late Dr Wood of Perth.

17. At Canterbury, in the 62d year of his age, Sir Robert Salusbury, Bart.

18. At Mauchline, Mr John Mair, in the 105th year of his age. To a masculine understanding, he united poignant wit, genuine humour, and a rare vivacity. As a teller of stories, he was almost without an equal. His mental energies and bodily strength continued unimpaired till shortly before his death. He was born in the parish of Galston, in March 1713, and had a commission, it is said, in the Train-bands, or Government Levy, in the year 1745.

19. At Windmill House, John Airth, Esq. merchant in Arbroath.

— Suddenly, at Cumbernauld, Anne Hamilton, wife of the Rev. Professor George Hill.

— At Glasgow, Mr John Macnee, merchant there.

— At his house, in Newton, Ayr, Captain John Smith.

21. Suddenly, in Duke Street, Bristol, Elizabeth, the wife of Mr Thomas Hill. Her death was occasioned by her endeavouring to fasten a cup with crumbs in it, outside her bed-room window, for a robin-red-breast, who paid constant attendance there for several weeks, and, over-reaching

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herself, she fell backwards into the area, never to rise again.

21. At Paisley, after a very short illness, the Rev. Charles Stuart, pastor of the Roman Catholic Congregation. His premature death, at the early age of 25, was the effect of typhus fever, caught, to appearance, by contagious infection and subsequent laborious attendance on some of his flock suffering under that disease.

22. At Paisley, Miss Ann Paterson of Craigton, aged 97.

24. At his house in George Square, Edinburgh, Sir Patrick Inglis, Bart.

— At Hutchesontown, aged 84, Mr James Bryce, late merchant in Glasgow.

26. At Eyemouth, William Dewar, Esq. formerly captain in the artillery service of the Nabob of Arcot, in the 77th year of his age, much respected.

30. At Jedburgh, James Potts, Esq. late Sheriff-clerk of Roxburghshire, in the 79th year of his age.

Lately, at his house in Fife, Admiral Duddingston.

At Benares, in the East Indies, Claude Russell, Esq. of the Honourable East India Company's service.

At Ballynure, Ireland, near Clones, Michael Pendar, at the advanced age of 107. He had been a pensioner for 72 years.

At Manchester, at the age of 70 years, Mrs Maclellan, formerly Miss Mary Macghie, daughter of the late Mr Macghie of Airds, and the celebrated heroine of the popular ballad of "Mary's Dream."

At his house, Hartendam, Herts, Major-General Hadden of the Royal Artillery.

In Winpole Street, London, Mrs Farquharson, aged 83.

At Whittlebury, Northamptonshire, in his 73d year, the Rev. Henry Beauclerk, only son of the late Lord Henry Beauclerk.

At Dublin, Mrs Blackford, granddaughter of the Earl of Darnley.

In the Scotch College, Paris, deservedly lamented, the Rev. John Farquharson, Superior. He was long Principal or Head of the Scotch College at Douay, in Flanders, which he was forced to abandon at the period of the Revolution, and went to Glasgow, where he remained many years, officiating as Catholic clergyman, and was much esteemed for his modesty and humility, and as an honest man.

At an advanced period of life, Mr George Kidd, farmer in Crocketford, parish of Urr, an industrious and worthy man. During the greater part of his life he was a zealous disciple of Mrs Buchan, the enthusiastic pretender to a divine mission, who, towards the close of the last century, flourished in the vicinity of Closeburn.

At Paris, the Countess Dillon, relict of the Hon. General Arthur Dillon, brother to the late Viscount Dillon. This lady was first married to the Comte de la Touche, by whom she had one son, and a daughter married to the Duke of Fitz-James. By the late Hon. Arthur Dillon she has left one daughter, married to General Bertrand.

At St Maude, near Paris, aged 11 years, Lord Boringdon, eldest son of the Earl of Morley. A stalk of rye, which he had inadvertently swallowed the latter end of July, was the cause of his sufferings. It was found, after his death, three inches in length, in its original state, lodged in the intestines.

At Cawnpore, in the 65th year of his age, Major-General Sir John Hearsford, K. C. B. commanding first division field army, and Colonel of the 3d battalion of artillery. The State has in him lost a most able and upright servant, the army one of its most distinguished officers, and the Honourable Order of the Bath a member worthy of its distinction. He served nearly thirty-nine years with his regiment as an officer, and was much employed on field service during the eight years he commanded the Bengal artillery; his attention to its interests was chiefly exemplified in improving the situation of the soldier, European and Native, in all the several branches of that extensive and widely dispersed corps. After a service of forty-five years, in various parts of India, spent in constant and unwearied devotion to his duty—never even in sickness having enjoyed the indulgence of one day's furlough, or leave of absence from his professional labours—this eminent officer, whose sound constitution, hardened by temperance, had long contended with an extraordinary complication of disease, ended a long life of useful services shortly after his return from field service at Hattras. A man of stern principle, sound judgment, extensive knowledge, and independent spirit, his memory will be respected by all who knew him, and his loss long regretted by those who were his selected friends.

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